Planning the 'City of Tomorrow'
British reconstruction planning, 1939-1952:
an annotated bibliography

Peter J. Larkham and Keith D. Lilley

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PLANNING THE 'CITY OF TOMORROW'
BRITISH RECONSTRUCTION PLANNING, 1939-1952:
AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Peter J. Larkham and Keith D. Lilley

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Preface

The impetus to compile this bibliography developed out of a shared interest in urban morphology – the study of urban form – particularly relating to the dramatic rebuilding and replanning of British towns which followed the Second World War. We both share a debt to the late Gordon Cherry, for introducing us to the academic study of planning history, and revealing to us awareness of the richness of published and unpublished sources still available. We both come from towns which produced detailed reconstruction plans in the 1940s: Keith from Coventry, an icon both of damage and of Modernist reconstruction; Peter from Wolverhampton, little-damaged and not iconic.

We have both been collecting reconstruction plans as they have come on to the market over the past few years, and this brought us into contact with Peter Inch. Peter has an interest in planning and reconstruction publications, and regularly offers these 1940s plans for sale. His own catalogues provided a good source of bibliography entries!

Compiling this bibliography is a stage in raising our own awareness of the amount and range of reconstruction material. We are both involved in researching reconstruction in various ways. Peter is working on the imagery of plans, their place in developing professional networks, and their contribution to the development of concepts of town planning and urban design. Keith is interested in the plans as a form of urban representation, and in the development of 'popular' planning and the involvement of the public via exhibitions and similar means. He is also working in collaboration with another colleague, Phil Hubbard (University of Loughborough) on the oral histories of reconstruction planning.

Yet we are aware that we will have missed publications, been unaware of exhibitions and their catalogues, and have not (yet) systematically trawled through every professional journal of the period. Suggestions of omissions, and further references, would be very welcome!

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Keith Lilley acknowledges the support of the British Academy for funding a pilot project on "Popular planning: the images and imagery of civic rebuilding plans in early post-war Britain". Peter Larkham acknowledges support from the Faculty of the Built Environment, University of Central England.

How to use this bibliography

This bibliography has attempted to identify different types of, or approaches to, reconstruction plans through the types of author. In particular, Section 2 lists plans first as commissioned plans by consultants and expert bodies (2.1), then those produced in house by local authority staff (including relevant committee reports) (2.2), then the connected publicity material for reconstruction plans, including exhibition guides and summary versions of the longer plans for public circulation (2.3). Last, there are a few unofficial plans, produced by private individuals or local organisations (2.4).

A number of the plans themselves were informed by increasingly complex local surveys of social and economic conditions. These are listed in Section 3.

The remaining bibliographic sections present a range of material to place the reconstruction plans in a wider context. This includes samples of other contemporary plans; biographical material on plan authors (principal the key consultants); and published literature on reconstruction planning, both contemporary and recent, for both the UK and elsewhere.

Each bibliographical entry is listed alphabetically by author – or, where authors are not known or given, by place. Year of publication, where known, is given. Full bibliographical details of title, publisher etc are given wherever possible. Additional information such as the length and cost (in pre-decimal currency, of pounds, shillings and pence: £/s/d) gives an indication of the scale of the publication: there are wide differences! Some entries are supplemented by commentaries – in italics – highlighting key points about the publication, recording where it was reviewed, and so on.
1. Introduction: a context for studying wartime and post-war reconstruction plans

The plans and their production

During and immediately after the Second World War, many towns and cities in the UK produced a range of planning documents. For some, the impetus was wartime bomb damage (for example Portsmouth, Exeter). For others, where little or no damage had occurred, there may have been an element of inter-urban competition, or `civic boosterism', in seeking not to become left behind while others were replanning (Worcester, Teignmouth). The classic histories of planning often reiterate the bomb damage as the spur to reconstruction:

"But the greatest stimulus brought by war to town planning came through the shattering of cities by bombing, from the autumn of 1940 onwards. ... Since so much rebuilding was inescapable the most favourable opportunity was presented for planning the improvement of other city districts, which had long been shabby or inconvenient ..." (Ashworth, 1954, p. 227).

Many of the plans themselves emphasise the poor pre-war urban environment and conditions. Before the war "Plymouth was no decayed or depressed area, no outworn town ... but like all old towns which have grown and prospered from small beginnings Plymouth was in need of a thorough overhaul..." (Watson and Abercrombie, 1943, p. 1); while "London ... was ripe for reconstruction before the war" (Ashworth, 1954, p. 228, citing Forshaw and Abercrombie, 1943, p. 20). Indeed, there were pre-war documents proposing quite substantial urban rebuildings: for example Simon and Inman (1935) for Manchester in general, and Craven (1938) as a specific plan for the central area of Sheffield.

In some cases, it is obvious that the concerns of the `reconstruction plan' have little to do with the aftermath of war, but much to do with the planning concerns that immediately preceded it: the `reconstruction plan' was, perhaps, a convenient mechanism to formulate and promulgate these ideas (Wolverhampton; and some of Abercrombie's plans show clear similarities with his inter-war work). The plans do not, generally, present a wholly new paradigm in planning and design, as some commentators hint: instead most are clearly a part of a continuum of planning concerns and mechanisms.

Some of these towns commissioned the most eminent available consultants to undertake this task (Section 2.1). Indeed, standard planning histories focus on these `great plans' and `great planners', to the exclusion of all other reconstruction plans: one might think that Abercrombie alone was responsible for post-war reconstruction planning! (Table 1). Many of these plan authors were primarily or solely architects rather than town planners, although some had joint qualifications and the most eminent had been President of the Town Planning Institute (Thomas Sharp, Patrick Abercrombie, William Davidge, William Holford, Stanley Adshead, W. Dobson Chapman), and a number were linked through studying or teaching at the UK's oldest academic department in the field, the Department of Civic Design at the University of Liverpool.

**Table 1: reconstruction plans cited by standard histories of planning**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>History</th>
<th>Reconstruction plans cited</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Plymouth</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Forshaw &amp; Abercrombie (1943) <em>County of London Plan</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Author and Year</td>
<td>Plans and Locations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abercrombie (1944) Greater London Plan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reconstruction in the City of London (1944)  
Forshaw & Abercrombie (1943) County of London Plan  
Abercrombie (1944) Greater London Plan  
Royal Academy London exhibition (1942)  
Watson & Abercrombie (1943)  
Plymouth  
Adshead & Cook (1942) Southampton  
Abercrombie (1945) Hull (no name credit for Lutyens) |
| S.V. Ward (1994) | Forshaw & Abercrombie (1943) County of London Plan  
Abercrombie (1944) Greater London Plan  
Watson & Abercrombie (1943)  
Plymouth  
Lutyens & Abercrombie (1945) Hull  
Gibson (c. 1942) Coventry |
| H. Meller (1997) | passing reference to MARS Group and Royal Academy  
Abercrombie (1944) Greater London Plan  
"Abercrombie's plans for Greater London and its region" |

1 Full bibliographical details are given at the end of this Section.
2 For full details see Section 2

Sometimes the plan credits the local Borough Surveyor (or equivalent; again, very rarely a qualified town planner) jointly with the consultant; as with the classic plan for Plymouth by J. Paton Watson and Patrick Abercrombie. Perhaps surprisingly in view of their treatment in histories of planning, the great majority of plans are 'in-house' efforts (Section 2.2), and occasionally the published plan is credited solely to the Borough Surveyor, as with Charles Greenwood's 1945 plan for Chester. The majority of in-house local authority plans did not, however, credit named authors; and many appeared as small brochures (Walsall) or as unpublished reports of local authority Reconstruction Committees (Malvern).

A tabulation of the consultants (rather than local authority officers) named as authors reveals an interesting pattern of popularity. Sharp and Abercrombie are clearly ahead, and there is a long tail of those working on only a couple of plans: 24 individuals who appear on only one plan (some of whom are local authority co-authors) are here omitted (Table 2). Clearly there are some partnerships in these author credits, as with T. Alwyn Lloyd (a Past President of the Institute) and Herbert Jackson, working on plans for several areas in the Black Country in 1943-4; and with S. Rowland Pierce and C.H. James. Minoprio and Spencely, who produced the Worcester plan of 1946, had both been at Harrow and Oxford, then trained at the Liverpool School of Architecture together and entered into a successful architectural partnership in 1928; they were still in partnership, and producing urban master plans, in 1962 (for example Minoprio et al., 1962).

The majority of consultant planners were active in producing plans for only one or two locations. The 'star' performers were exceptions, and had built their reputations with earlier
activities and publications. Sharp's book *Town Planning* (1940), for example, had been commissioned by Penguin and sold a quarter of a million copies in wartime: Cherry, writing in 1974, wrote that it was perhaps "the planning bestseller of our time" (p. 130). Although, in the many places which did not possess specialist planners during the inter-war years, "it was often the practice to employ consultants to prepare schemes and plans, leaving the actual administration ... to the local (often overworked) Engineer/Surveyor's Departments", "what seems evident is that no practice could survive just on planning" (Cherry, 1974, p. 114). Thus the limited involvement of specialist planning consultants reflected the diverse and small-scale nature and activities of the profession at that period, and its status relative to other professions.

Consultants with experience and reputation, for example Abercrombie and Sharp, were expensive for local authorities to employ. Table 3 gives Sharp's fees for producing reconstruction plans throughout the 1940s, extracted from contracts in his surviving papers kept at the University of Newcastle. Most such contracts involved at least a year's work for Sharp, with some secretarial support; costs for photographer, artist and models were usually added. There are no surviving records of expenses payments for Sharp's own visits or residence in the towns studied. These fees were by no means modest, and were clearly felt to be too expensive for some authorities. There are also hints in the surviving correspondence that he turned down several invitations. However, he was clearly a desirable consultant despite his sometimes idiosyncratic comments and approaches (Cherry, 1983; Stansfield, 1981). In contrast, Max Lock's work was often supported by a range of grants: the Hull Regional Survey was funded through a Leverhulme Research Fellowship, the James Reckitt Trust, the Newby Trust, three local companies, and four individuals. Expenses were relatively low, as he (and often his co-workers) were resident in the area; in Hull, at 117 Park Avenue.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consultant (with qualifications etc)</th>
<th>Number of plans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sharp, Thomas CBE MA DLitt MTPi FRIA PPILA; TPI President 1945-6</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abercrombie, Sir Patrick MA DLitt FRIA FILA; TPI President 1925-6</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davidge, William R. MTPi AMInstCE FRIA FSI; TPI President 1926-7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapman, W. Dobson MA MTPi LRIBA FILA; TPI President 1943-4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lloyd, T. Alwyn OBE Hon LLd FRIA FILA FSA; TPI President 1933-4</td>
<td>5 (3 with Jackson)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lock, Max ARIBA MTPi</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adshead, Stanley D. MA MArch FRIA; TPI President 1918-19</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwards, A. Trystan FRIA</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holden, Charles LitD FRIA MTPi</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson, Herbert</td>
<td>3 (with Lloyd)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jellicoe, [later Sir] Geoffrey CBE RA PPILA FRIA MTPi</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chitty, Anthony M. MA FRIA AMTPI</td>
<td>3 (2 with Hening)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nickson, Richard MA FRIA (Abercrombie’s business partner from 1946)</td>
<td>3 (with Abercrombie)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gibberd, Frederick ARIBA AMTPI</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hening, Robert MBE</td>
<td>2 (with Chitty)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holford, [later Lord] William BArch MA DCL Hon LLd ARA PPRIBA PPILA; TPI President 1953-4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James, Charles Holloway RA FRIA</td>
<td>2 (with Pierce)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lutyens, Sir Edwin OM KCIE PRA FRIA Hon LLd etc</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minoprio, Anthony BArch MA FRIA AMTPI</td>
<td>2 (with Spencely)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needham, Charles William Cashmore FRIA</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pierce, S. Rowland FRIA</td>
<td>2 (with James) + LRRC membership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spencely, H.G.C. BArch FRIA AMTPI</td>
<td>2 (with Minoprio)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thompson, F. Longstreh BSc FSI AssocMInstCE PPTPI</td>
<td>2 (but seems not to have written reports)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Williams Ellis, Clough MC CBE FRIA MTPi PPILA Hon LLd</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1 This list omits named authors known to have been officers of local authorities (therefore involved only in plans for their area), and named authors of unknown status.
2 The qualifications etc listed may have been gained after this period of reconstruction and may not be exhaustive.
Table 3: fees charged by Thomas Sharp for reconstruction plans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date (of final report or, where asterisked, of contract)</th>
<th>Fee (in guineas)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Todmorden</td>
<td>1945</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exeter</td>
<td>1946</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxford</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td>2500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taunton</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King's Lynn</td>
<td>1948*</td>
<td>1050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salisbury</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chichester</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>1250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stockport</td>
<td>1949*</td>
<td>2500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minehead</td>
<td>1948*</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of course, this bibliographical author-centred view omits those who were not named as authors – often the local authority officers, and the teams of researchers, artists, model-makers and so forth. Sharp gave credit to some, notably the illustrator A.C. Webb; and Max Lock credited his team by name in the title pages of his reports; but these are unusual.

Yet in a number of instances publications dealing with reconstruction planning are neither the work of consultants, nor a named local authority official, but take the form of reports of local authority committees or subcommittees. The costs of working in this way were minimal and internalised; at Wolverhampton, however, there were considerable debates over the costs of producing a short brochure! These committee reports are usually relatively short, dry and wholly unillustrated.

The dating of plans and related ‘reconstruction activity’ (committee reports, exhibitions etc) is also of interest (Table 4). There is a major concentration in 1944-5 and a significant tail after 1946. None are known before 1941 although there were air raids during 1940, and the character of plans changes significantly by about 1951-2, after the new requirements of the 1947 Act.

It seems often to be felt, both at the time and by later commentators, that the plans were radical. Clearly, some took the opportunity to introduce Modernist ideals in architecture and planning; particularly in areas such as Plymouth where the extent of damage had demanded a fresh start. Probably the best-known of these radical plans were those by Max Lock, Professor of Architecture at Hull during the war (the Middlesbrough plan of 1946) and the Cheshire-based consultant and President of the Institute W. Dobson Chapman (Macclesfield, 1944). Other plans were particularly sympathetic to the mediaeval fabric and *genius loci* of towns, most notably those by Thomas Sharp for Exeter and Durham (Stansfield, 1981); although Sharp was perhaps less sympathetic and successful in the regularly planned mediaeval and Georgian towns of Salisbury and Chichester (Stansfield, 1981), and

Table 4: dates of known reconstruction plans
the illustrations in his plans seem less overtly sympathetic than his texts (Larkham, 1997). There are, too, some plans which trod a middle line: imposing quite large-scale and radical rebuilding via street straightening and widening, necessitating rebuilding. Illustrations suggest that, although new buildings were often illustrated as Modernist in their rectilinear, clean, lines free from architectural detail, the aggressively modern constructional materials (steel, reinforced concrete, float glass) or techniques (industrial prefabrication) were clad in reassuring, familiar, mellow brickwork and a plain, stripped classicism owing much to the neo-Georgian so familiar in inter-war civic and public buildings (Larkham, 1997, shows the example of Minoprio and Spencely's 1946 plan for Worcester).

There were eventually several hundred of these plans – far more than the number of severely bomb-damaged towns. A Ministry bibliography of 1947 lists only 82 (Ministry of Town and Country Planning, 1947). Minoprio (1951; himself an author of at least two) suggested that "since 1930 nearly two hundred surveys and outline plans for towns and regions in Great Britain have been prepared", and this seems if anything an under-estimate of the level of activity. The spate of plans had begun to dwindle by the time of the Festival of Britain in 1951 and, by then, their character had begun to change to the 'development plans' promoted by the 1947 Town and Country Planning Act.

As the plans themselves range from bound books larger than A4 to a few duplicated and stapled sheets, so too do their prices vary. A very small number were (for the time) expensive: both Abercrombie's London and Lock's Middlesbrough being over one guinea. A number, particularly Sharp's plans lavishly produced by the Architectural Press, were sold at 10/6 (half a guinea). The majority of those for which prices are known were under 5/- with, for example, Wolverhampton's booklet being deliberately priced at 2/- for affordability. There was also a

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Number of plans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1944</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1945</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1947</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unknown</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
range of smaller, public-oriented, publications and summaries, and booklets to accompany exhibitions (see Section 2.3). By the early 1950s, however, prices and the scale and quality of publications had risen.

The contemporary planning context

Inter-war town planning was a rather haphazard affair. The 1932 Town and Country Planning Act permitted 'planning schemes' (principally a zoning exercise) and, even when such a scheme was only in preparatory stages, the local authorities involved could exercise some measure of development control. But the process of producing such a scheme was long and involved. The context of the development of planning as an activity and as a profession has already been reviewed in the light of the involvement of the consultants.

Certainly it was the impetus of bomb damage that brought planning to the fore at national and local levels (Hasegawa, 1992, chapter 2; Cullingworth, 1975). Central government had early begun consideration of mechanisms for planning, by establishing a Consultative Panel on Physical Reconstruction, chaired by Lord Reith (Minister of Works and Buildings from October 1940). An Interdepartmental Committee of Officials on Reconstruction had surveyed four sample blitzed areas by February 1941. Inter alia they reported that the local authorities concerned should be allowed to exercise more planning controls, and should prepare outline plans as soon as possible (Public Records Office, HLG 71/1570). Reith's Panel had virtually completed a draft manual for local authorities on the technique of redevelopment in central urban areas as early as October 1941 (Public Records Office, HLG 86/8). Although Reith was working towards a Town and Country Planning (Reconstruction) Bill, and it had been discussed at the Cabinet Committee on Reconstruction Problems (Hasegawa, 1992, p. 8), he was replaced in February 1942 and his Consultative Panel ceased to meet. The central impetus for considering reconstruction issues seemed to diminish, and it was not until 1943 that a new Ministry of Works and Planning was set up. The Town and Country Planning (Interim Development) Act 1943 and Town and Country Planning Act 1944 began to develop mechanisms for large-scale replanning, particularly regarding powers for acquiring or otherwise controlling land; but these were interim, contentious and not wholly satisfactory.

What actually emerged was frequently known as an 'outline development plan' (cf. examples at Hastings, Guildford, Worcester). Some were informed by broad surveys of the type necessary for the pre-war Planning Schemes: well-known examples are the Worcester survey (Glaisyer et al., 1946); Wolverhampton (Brennan, 1948 – he had worked with the Birmingham University team on the Worcester plan, but Reconstruction Committee minutes show that Wolverhampton found it more convenient to employ him rather than commission the University!)) and the Hull Regional Survey directed by Max Lock. Although these should be "a general picture of the town' showing only its broad features or structure. The main priority of this would be to present the concept underlying its reconstruction, rather than 'the assembly of complicated details which obscure the main concept of the plan'" (Davies, 1999, p. 46, quoting Public Records Office, HLG 71/1259). In the event, however, many of the outline development plans became more complex and detailed. The 1947 Town and Country Planning Act promoted a rather different form of development plan, intended to indicate "the manner in which they [the local planning authority] propose that land in the area should be used" (1947 Act, s.5[1]). Regulations issued by the Ministry of Town and Country Planning in 1948 specified the form and content of these plans. They were to be accompanied by a 'report of survey' and 'written analysis'; and these requirements began to change the character, structure and content of plans that were begun after the 1947 Act. Of course, many plans were already in progress and were
published after 1947. Lock's plan for the Hartlepools was one such publication whose content and format was shaped by this guidance; although it should be noted that Lock's earlier plans, notably for Middlesbrough, were already in this format of broad data collection and analysis, rather than the more impressionistic style of, for example, Sharp.

Reviewing the plans and the planners

It is interesting, and rather surprising, that relatively few of these plans were subject to contemporary review in the two main journals being published in the immediate post-war period: Town Planning Review and the Journal of the Town Planning Institute. Although William (later Lord) Holford did review the innovative modernist Middlesbrough plan by Max Lock, the vast majority of contemporary reviews were of Sharp's plans. Perhaps this was because so many of Sharp's plans were 'properly' published by a mainstream architectural publisher, the Architectural Press, and were substantial items with many illustrations, including colour aerial perspectives.

More reviews can be found in the journals of allied professions, including Architects' Journal, The Builder, Architectural Review, and Architect and Building News. Indeed some planning proposals were published solely in these journals, rather than as separate books or brochures: this was the case even with Coventry's radical proposals. This spread of journals could indicate the early stage of development of the planning profession, reflecting the fact that many plan authors were not town planners (or not exclusively so). Again, the plans featured are mostly those of the key consultants such as Sharp.

A few plans, including Sharp's of Exeter, Chichester and Salisbury, were reviewed in public journals such as The Listener, New Statesman and Nation, and Country Life. Many of the reviews in the planning and public journals are 'safe' descriptions, or in some cases extended summaries. Only in the journals of the allied professions, and in particular in the pages of the Architectural Review, are critical - sometimes scathing - reviews found.

More recently, reconstruction planning has been a focus of considerable academic interest from the mid-1980s across Europe (Diefendorf, 1990), and studies have explored both national and local scales of activity, and themes including the design and traffic implications of these plans. In particular, Hasegawa (1992) has reviewed the national and local politics and economics of reconstruction in Bristol, Coventry and Southampton. However, most attention has been paid to the key plans: those produced by eminent consultants, including Abercrombie, Adshead, Holford and Sharp, or for the larger cities and the metropolis. Of this literature, the review of the Lutyens and Abercrombie plan for Hull (Jones, 1998) is particularly interesting. Although Abercrombie himself considered that this was "probably the best report he had been connected with" (Dix, 1981), "no other wartime plan was so ignored or apparently ineffective" (Jones, 1998, p. 301). Thomas Sharp produced plans for Durham, Exeter, Oxford, Salisbury and Taunton, among others, and his views of mediaeval urban forms have been examined by Lilley (1999), while Larkham (1997) has begun exploration of the imagery of his and other plans. Of the five advisory plans produced for London, Marmaras and Sutcliffe (1994) review the three independent plans: the MARS plan of 1942, the Royal Academy plan also of 1942, and the RIBA London Regional Reconstruction Committee plan of 1943; Gold (1995) reviews the 1942 MARS plan in the context of the other MARS plans from 1933.

The few biographical works of town planners active at this period have mentioned their involvement (Cherry and Penny, 1986, on Holford; Dix, 1981, on Abercrombie; Stansfield, 1981, on Sharp). Entries for the deceased and very eminent in the Dictionary of National Biography can be helpful, if brief; as can newspaper and professional journal obituaries. But,
with the obvious exception of Gordon Cherry's own authored and edited work, there is very little information available on British town planners of this (or, indeed, of any other) period. We are still largely in the dark about contemporary working practices, engagement practices for consultants, and the development of concepts. Voldman (1990) has worked on oral histories of French post-war reconstruction, and the same could (just) be done for the UK. In many respects, therefore, this is an under-explored field.

Some plan authors were better known for their activities in other fields: their participation here is, perhaps, surprising and tends to have been overlooked by their biographers. Notable in this category are Sir Edwin Lutyens (Hull) and Geoffrey Jellicoe (Guildford, Mablethorpe).

Finding the plans

This bibliography concentrates on the plans and related publications issued during the war and until 1952. That end-date is chosen because, as discussed above, the changing requirements of the new post-1947 planning system led to a very different form of development plan; and because, as other authors identify, changes in the post-war economy, politics, social and cultural life were becoming evident by the time of the Festival of Britain, which marks a convenient terminal date (cf Milward, 1984).

Many – although by no means all – of these plans are still readily available in the local libraries or archive collections of the appropriate towns. However, the catalogue of the British Library reveals relatively few – perhaps because the majority were published, often in relatively small numbers, by the individual local councils. The annual accessions lists for the RIBA Library are more helpful. Some contemporary listings do exist (eg Ascot Water Heaters Ltd, 1947-51; Ministry of Town and Country Planning, 1947; Great Britain, 1951) and these have been used in compiling the present list. Hasegawa (1999) also mentions a list prepared by S.L.G. Beaufoy in 1948 (Public Record Office, HLG 87/5).

A pertinent bibliographical problem is that, at the time and today, the terms 'rebuilding' and 'reconstruction' in particular have been used to encompass very different issues than the physical rebuilding concentrated upon here. Britain and Europe were to be rebuilt and reconstructed socially, economically and politically (eg Ellwood, 1992; Milward, 1984). This can give rise to confusion where bibliographical sources are used and where it has not been possible to check each potential reference.

Clearly, the status of these plans varied. In some cases, plans exist both as formal planning documents and as smaller 'public' versions, exhibition brochures, and so on. Only a few were published by mainstream publishers, principally those by the famous – Architectural Press publishing Sharp's series of plans, HMSO publishing a small number of large-scale plans such as Abercrombie's Greater London Plan (1945). Some were never formally published, remaining as reports of various local authority advisory committees. In several such cases, circulation was apparently restricted to the councillors and officers of the authority concerned: a few copies still exist stamped "confidential" or even "strictly private and confidential". More confusingly, some plans were circulated informally, perhaps even confidentially, prior to later formal publication. The range of types of plan, and means of publication (and non-publication) renders bibliographical searching difficult.

However, these plans are still regularly offered for sale by specialist dealers. This Bibliography draws upon the catalogues issued by Peter Inch over the past few years (and incorporates some of his own comments on a few of the plans!). It is in the nature of bibliographies such as this that additional plans and related publications are certain to exist, and
the editors would always be grateful to have such items brought to their attention. The authors have been unable to view all of the plans to which references exist: their categorisation, and sometimes bibliographic detail, are therefore uncertain.

References to Section 1

All references except the following can be found in the main Bibliography (Sections 2 onwards).


Craven, C.G. (1938) *Sheffield: an example of the replanning of a central area* Sheffield City Council, Sheffield


2. UK wartime and immediate post-war ‘reconstruction’ plans, 1939-1952

This section covers "advisory" and "outline" plans for bomb-damaged and relatively undamaged towns to c. 1952. Plans for new towns and settlements, and rural areas, are excluded. Those for small-scale individual districts, e.g. industrial areas, are usually omitted. In some cases, full bibliographic details are not known and the plans are not in the major public library collections; however at least one copy has been offered for sale within the last decade or so. It is not always straightforward between types of plan, but this bibliography attempts to distinguish between the 'mainstream' plans, usually formally commissioned by a local authority, and often published for public consultation or information [Section 2.1]; those produced in-house by the local authority by its own staff; including the less readily available documents, often reports of local authority committees [Section 2.2] and the publicity material, exhibition catalogues and 'public consumption' versions [Section 2.3]. It is more easy to distinguish those personal views and other related material [Section 2.4].

2.1 Commissioned plans: by consultants, professional and expert bodies etc.


Abercrombie, Patrick (1947) “The Ministry of Town and Country Planning announce that a development plan for Birmingham now being drawn up by Sir Patrick Abercrombie is expected to be published at the end of the year” Architect and Building News 20/6/47, p. 229.

Abercrombie, Patrick and Nickson, Richard (1946) A plan for Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch, The Corporation / Bournemouth Guardian Ltd, Bournemouth, 133pp, 3/-.


Abercrombie, Patrick and Nickson, Richard (1946) “Dover replanning scheme”: working
drawings of this title loaned to the Exhibition of Architects’ Working Drawings held at the RIBA; *Architect and Building News* 17/10/47, p. 48. The plan was apparently prepared with the Borough Surveyor and Planning Officer, Philip Marchant, on the basis of his earlier “sketch proposals” of 1945; Abercrombie was called in post-June 1945 and presented a scheme to the Council in January 1946: *Architect and Building News* 28/11/47, p. 177; *The Builder* 13/6/47, p. 590. (See also Marchant.)

Abercrombie, Patrick; Williams-Ellis, Clough; Brett, Lionel; Hill, Frederick A.R. (c. 1947) Abercrombie engaged by Redditch UDC “to provide a master plan for the development of the town ... an imaginative plan, which envisaged a covered, traffic-free shopping area many years before other towns had them” but this was rejected by the Council in 1948 (Richardson, R. (1986) *The book of Redditch* Barracuda, Buckingham, p. 123). This was “in conjunction with ... Clough Williams-Ellis, the eminent architect ... later they were joined by the Council’s own chief architect, Mr Frederick A.R. Hill, and the Hon Lionel Brett [Williams-Ellis’s partner]. Plans were prepared at a cost of £1,000” hinting that the plan was not implemented because of the take-over of planning functions by the County Council, with its own county development plan and town development plan for Redditch, in 1950 (Rollins, J.G. (1984) *A history of Redditch* Phillimore, Chichester, p. 84). But the *Official Guide* (n.d., c. 1950) suggests that the contract was “towards the end of the war”.

Abercrombie, Patrick and Nickson, Richard (1949) *Warwick: its preservation and redevelopment*, Architectural Press, London, 151pp, 12/6. Work was begun “in the autumn of 1945”; Abercrombie accepted the position in June 1945, the work to cost about £1,000. His final bill, in 2/47, was £3,200. 3,000 copies published 7/11/49 after lengthy delays, costing £3,000. Reviewed in *Town Planning Review* 1950 vol. 21 no. 1 p. 87, by T. Mellor; *Town & Country Planning* 1950 vol. 18 no. 72 pp. 130-134, by C.B. Parkes; *Estates Gazette* 10/12/49, p. 542; *The Architect & Building News* 17/3/50, p. 298, in which work is erroneously said to have started in 1943.


Abercrombie, Patrick and Plumstead, Derek (1949) *A civic survey and plan for the City and Royal Burgh of Edinburgh: prepared for the Town Council*, Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh,
Plumstead was then Town Planning Officer, and previously worked with Abercrombie on the Plymouth and Hull plans. Interim report presented to Edinburgh Corporation on 31/3/47 and preliminary drawings exhibited at the “Scotland To-Morrow” congress, Edinburgh, 3-6/10/47. These preliminary proposals reviewed in The Builder 10/10/47 vol. 173 pp. 396-400. The final publication reviewed in Journal of the Town Planning Institute 1949 vol. 36 no. 1 pp. 29-32, by F. Connell; Architect and Building News 9/12/49 vol. 196 pp. 612-614, by M.E. Taylor; The Builder 22/7/49, pp. 98-100, by G.L. Pepler; Town Planning Review 1950 vol. 21 no. 1 pp. 82-87, by R. Moira; Official Architecture 11/47, pp. 612-614; comments particularly on Princes Street proposals in Estates Gazette 16/7/49.


Adshead, S.D., Minter, C.J. and Needham, C.W.C. (1948) A plan for the City of York (title on outer cover) York: a plan for progress and preservation (title on inner page), no publisher given, York, 48pp. 3/6. Adshead and Needham were consultants, not in practice together, funded by the Joseph Rowntree Village Trust; Minter was City Surveyor and Planning Officer. Instructed to prepare plan in 1943. Adshead died in 1946; report deals only with historic centre because of changes to method and requirements of statutory planning by 1947 Act. Described by H.V. Lanchester, The Builder CLXXIV no. 5476, 30/1/48, pp. 133-134.


Allen, E.G. and Potter, A.R. (1944) “Mr Allen, the Planning Consultant who is preparing a reconstruction scheme of that part of Weymouth which was specified under the War Damage Act”: memo, 2/11/43, in PRO HLG 79/818. Report available 13/9/44.


(Belfast) (1945) Planning proposals for the Belfast area, Interim Report of the Planning
Bunton, S. (1943) Clydebank replanned. Scheme reviewed in Builder, 14/1/44 pp. 33-38. Bunton was LRIBA, ARIAS, of Sam Bunton Associates, Warwick Square SW1 (in 1946). He was “called in to organise the emergency repair” 3/41, proposed with Arup a version of Arup’s “safe housing in wartime” (Architect & Building News 4/7/41, p. 3); appointed Consultant Town Planning Adviser to the Burgh of Clydebank in 11/41. The plan was exhibited in Clydebank in January 1944. Described in Architects’ Journal 6/1/44 pp. 7-15.


Chapman, W. Dobson (c. 1943-4) Acted as planning consultant for Bridlington: by 2/44 had “roughed out a sketch plan more or less based on the original suggestions with certain amendments” (PRO HLG 71/1212).

Chapman, W. Dobson, with W. Davidge, appointed by Cheshire County Council as consultants for Chester’s Town Planning scheme, The Builder CLXIV no. 5220, 19/2/43, p. 170. Was it this that resulted in Greenwood’s plan, 1945?

Chapman, W. Dobson (1944) Towards a new Macclesfield: a suggestion for a new town centre, Macclesfield Borough Council, Macclesfield, 12pp. Chapman offered "to act as Honorary Consultant until such time as normal peace-time conditions are restored ... this plan was the result of two years' work at odd hours ... As Mr Dobson Chapman has stressed in his Report, the touch of 'Things to Come in the sketches which are published herein is purely illustrative and not to be taken as a prophecy of rigid intentions on the part of the Corporation". Report abstracted in Architects’ Journal 14/12/44 pp. 441-446.


Aberdeen University Press; described as an “abridged and revised” version of the Survey & Plan (above). Exhibition, July 1952.

Chapman, W. Dobson & Partners (1952) The City and Royal Burgh of Dundee, survey and plan (2 volumes, 300pp). (A mimeo version advertised for sale 1999.)


Cowles-Voysey, C. (1946) An architect, FRIBA, appointed to replan the centre of Worthing at a fee of 2,500 guineas plus expenses: The Builder CLXX no. 5393, 14/6/46, p. 576.

Davidge, William R. (1942) Appointed “at the invitation of the Northern Ireland Government to give advice on Town Planning operations”, Architect & Building News 27/2/42, p. 160 (see Belfast)

Davidge, William R. (1943) Appointed by Croydon Reconstruction Committee “to act jointly with the Borough Engineer in preparing a comprehensive scheme of replanning”, Architect and Building News 3/12/43, p. 142. Was it his plan that was approved by Croydon Council “last week”: Architect and Building News 1/8/47, p. 88?

Davidge, William R. and W. Dobson Chapman appointed by Cheshire County Council as consultants for Chester’s Town Planning scheme, The Builder CLXIV no. 5220, 19/2/43, p. 170. Was it this that resulted in Greenwood’s plan, 1945?

Davidge, William R. (1945) Planning for Swindon: survey and report by W.R. Davidge, and Report prepared by the Post-War Planning Sub-Committee (J.B.L. Thompson, Borough Surveyor), Swindon Borough Council, Swindon. A local exhibition was held to accompany this report (see separate listing for exhibition leaflet). Brief review in Journal of the Town Planning Institute 11/12/45, p. 14, which is critical of the reports' impression that "all Swindon requires is touching up here and there": "more, much more, will be necessary in laying down a foundation based on modern planning principles of neighbourhood development and a well balanced and diversified industry". Reviewed in The Builder, 25/5/45, pp. 414-416.

Davidge, William R. (1947) Wallasey plan, 1946, County Borough of Wallasey, 40pp, 7/6. Some credit Reginald Bruce with this report (Bruce did write a plan for Wallasey in 1929). This version marked "For limited circulation only", a later enlarged version was promised.

Edwards, A. Trystan (c. 1942) Scheme for the post-war replanning of Merthyr Tydfil, in collaboration with Alderman T.E. Rees. Plan to take 32 years at cost of £10 million. *The Builder* CLXII no. 5172, 20/3/42, p. 250. But in a note in *Architect & Building News* 9/10/42, p. 17, it was noted as costing £6 million in 20 years. Edwards was a native of Merthyr. “Corporation officials are said to be examining the plan”.

Edwards, A. Trystan (1944) *Some reflections on possible post-war developments in the borough of Hastings*. 'Submitted for the consideration of the Plans and Town Planning Committee of the Council, etc', 30pp. Edwards’ appointment noted in *The Builder* CLXV no. 5256, 29/10/43, p. 346: he was “to prepare an outline plan for the redevelopment of the built-up area of Hastings”. Evidently precursor to next entry.

Edwards, A. Trystan (1945) *Outline redevelopment plan for the built-up area of Hastings*. Report submitted to the Town Planning Committee of the Council of the County Borough of Hastings. See also Section 2.2 under 'Hastings'. This may be the "Hastings development plan" by Edwards reviewed in *Architect and Building News* 6/4/45 p. 3; focused on holiday centre.


Hening, Robert and Chitty, Anthony M. (1947) *Farnham town plan*, Farnham Urban District Council, Farnham, 37pp, 4/-. The consultants were “to undertake a survey of the town area and to prepare a report and plans showing a broad outline scheme upon which the future development of the town should follow” (p. 1). ‘Analytical article’ by H.V. Lanchester in *The Builder* CLXXIX no. 5472, 2/1/48, pp. 4-6; reviewed in RIBA Journal *DATE?* p. 224 by H.F. Hoar. *Architect and Building News* 1/11/46 p. 75, and *The Builder* CLXXI no. 5413, 1/11/46, p. 451 both note the appointment of Chitty (Hening not named) as Town Planning Consultant. *The Builder* describes Chitty’s remit as to “prepare a plan for the town with special attention to the protection of the town’s architectural merits and to the landscape development of the River Wey in the area”.

Holden, Charles H. (1945): reconstruction plan for St Paul’s environs prepared for the Dean & Chapter: copies sent to the Ministry of Town & Country Planning and RFAC. “Unfortunately it is not proposed to make this plan public at this stage”, *Architectural Review* vol. 987 November 1945, p. liii

(Holden, Charles H.: Holden's obituary (Journal of the Town Planning Institute June 1960, p. 184) states that he was engaged as architectural consultant in the post-war reconstruction scheme for Tynemouth.)


Jellicoe, Geoffrey A. (1946) Pevsner's Shropshire (c. 1955) refers to a Jellicoe plan for a new civic centre for Wellington. See Architect's Journal, 21/10/54 for details; this mentions that Jellicoe was invited "to prepare a new town plan", and reproduces the town core map.

Jellicoe, Geoffrey A. (1946) Proposed scheme for the reconstruction and replanning of the foreshore, Mablethorpe and Sutton-On-Sea, Lincs, 18pp. Xeroxed sheets in card cover; unpublished? Part reprinted in Architect and Building News 31/5/46, pp. 140-147; Architects' Journal 6/6/46, pp. 429-432; The Builder 31/5/46, pp. 529-533; Official Architect June 1946, pp. 306-311; TPI Journal 5-6/46, pp. 148-149: this review mentions an exhibition opened by F. Marshall, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Town & Country Planning, and illustrates a model. The town centre proposals were by the Borough Engineer and Surveyor, A. Baker, although this seems part of a 1938 Planning Scheme (ie not 'reconstruction').


Lloyd, T. Alwyn (1943) Appointed by Bromsgrove UDC “to prepare plans for reconstruction of Old Bromsgrove”, The Builder CLXIV no. 5238, 25/6/43, p. 550; the report was “recently submitted”, Architects' Journal 4/5/44, p. 325. Contract then extended for preparation of outline plan for entire UDC area: Committee minutes, Worcester CRO.

Lloyd, T. Alwyn (1944/45?) Bilston Development and Re-construction Committee minuted on 14/6/44 that Lloyd, who was acting as consultant designing post-war estates for the Borough, "be asked to prepare a development scheme for the whole of the Borough". No details survive in local archives.


Lloyd, T. Alwyn and Jackson, Herbert (Stourbridge) (1945) Town planning and post-war
development, a report prepared by the Council's town planning consultants in collaboration with the Borough Engineer and Surveyor [G.N. Maynard], 12pp, 1s. Report accepted by Council 30/7/45. Brief review in Journal of the Town Planning Institute Nov-Dec 1948, p. 23.

Lobb, H.V. (1943) Brentford redevelopment scheme, approved by Brentford and Chiswick Council 28/9/43. Lobb was FRIBA, a consultant based in Cowes. Discussion by Anthony Chitty in a Souvenir Programme for Brentford and Chiswick Housing Week, Brentford and Chiswick Corporation, London, 1945, 12pp. Scheme exhibited at the Royal Academy, 5/44; reviewed in Architect and Building News, 26/5/44, pp. 120-122; Architectural Design and Construction, 1/44, by Chitty; The Builder CLXIX no. 5347, 27/7/45, pp. 64-66.


Needham, C.W.C. (1946) note by Regional Planning Officer that Redcar had appointed Needham “to prepare a redevelopment plan”; 25/5/46 (NA HLG 79/605).

(Remaining text continues)


Sharp, Thomas (1944) Cathedral city: a plan for Durham, Architectural Press, London, 98pp, 10/6. Sharp was commissioned in 1943 (announced in Architect and Building News 1/10/43, p. 4) by the Housing and Town Planning Committee to "prepare and submit to the Corporation an outline development plan and report for the City of Durham, which plan and report shall have particular reference to the historical and architectural character of the city and to the appropriate treatment of areas which have been or are likely to be cleared of buildings". Reviewed in Estates Gazette 17/2/45, pp. 97-100, 143; Architectural Review vol. 97, May 1945, p. 154, by Charles Reilly; Architects’ Journal 1/2/45 pp. 97-100, by A.C. Bossom; The Builder CLXVIII no. 5321 26/1/45, p. 68, by “H.V.L.” [ie Lanchester]; Journal of the Town Planning Institute 9-10/45, p. 239; Proceedings of the Institute of Municipal and County Engineers LXXI, 2/45, pp. 225-226 by “L.R.”; Town & Country Planning vol. XIII no. 49, 1945, pp. 24-27, by R.L. Reiss. Short review in Architect and Building News 26/1/45 pp. 60-62. Criticised by County Surveyor in report to County Works Committee, see Estates Gazette, 21/7/45 p. 48.

Sharp, Thomas (1945) A plan for Todmorden, Town Council of Todmorden, Todmorden, 31pp,
Sharp, Thomas (c. 1946) Commissioned at an annual fee of £1,000 to act as planning consultant and prepare two town planning schemes for Kensington. From Sharp's contract files. One, known as the “Norland neighbourhood” and extending to 160 acres, was replanned by Sharp and the Borough Surveyor, H. Burleigh, by 1949: The Builder 20/5/49, p. 613.


Sharp, Thomas (1948) A plan for Taunton, Goodman/Phoenix Press, Taunton, 64pp, 5/-. Sharp was commissioned to "prepare and submit to the Corporation an outline development plan and report for the Borough of Taunton, which plan and report shall have particular reference to the historical and architectural character and the existing business development of the Borough, and to the reconstruction of built-up areas ... and areas hitherto undeveloped". His fee was 750 guineas. Report submitted to the Corporation in March 1946. Reviewed in Journal of the Town Planning Institute, 11/12/48, p. 21 by 'NHND'; Estates Gazette 14/8/48, p. 132.

Sharp, Thomas (c. 1948) King's Lynn: preliminary plan, King's Lynn Borough Council. Sharp's appointment announced in Builder, CLXX no. 5381, 21/3/46, p. 278. A 12pp mimeoed set of preliminary notes by Sharp was circulated in 1947; his fee was 1,050 guineas. A letter in the Lynn News and Advertiser, 11/3/49, notes with regret that the Town Council
"have seen fit to refuse publication of Mr Thomas Sharp's plan for the Borough"; but it was reviewed [i.e. a substantial summary published] by the Architect's Journal, 30/12/48, pp. 592-602.


Sharp, Thomas (c. 1949) Stockport town centre replanned, Planning and Development Committee, Stockport County Borough, 16pp, 1/-.

Sharp's fee was 1,000 guineas. He was appointed in 1947: “the intention is that the Consultant’s plan shall be prepared in collaboration with the Statutory Development Plan, and will pay special regard to the development of the sea front”, Architect and Building News 14/11/47, p. 129. The brief apparently was “to examine the area of the urban district of Minehead from the point of view of amenity and landscape, and prepare and submit a report thereon, having particular reference to the coastal area”; quoted in review by E. Gunn in The Architect & Building News 14/7/50, pp. 45-46; reviewed in Town & Country Planning vol. XVIII no. 76, 1950, p. 335, by B.J. Collins. A 22pp typescript report was available in 12/48.

Sharp, Thomas (c. 1950) St Andrews: a scheme by Sharp and M.E. Taylor (County Planning Officer of Fife) was “severely modified by the Council”, criticised by one as having been proposed “by one without sufficient knowledge of St Andrews and its traditions”: The Architect & Building News 16/6/50, p. 617.


Thompson, F. Longstreth (1943) appointed Town Planning Consultant for Post War Development by Norwich City Council. James and Pierce to be Joint Architectural Advisers, but were authors of the 1945 report. *Architect and Building News* 2/7/43, p. 4.

Thompson, F. Longstreth (c. 1943) Prepared scheme for Huddersfield (progress report by R.H. Mattocks, Regional Planning Officer, 1/12/43: NA HLG 71/1212)

Thompson, F. Longstreth (1944) Rickmansworth UDC "approved on general lines a plan for post-war development, prepared by Mr F. Longstreth Thompson PPTPI" in December 1944 (*Architects’ Journal* 18/1/45, review of 1944); no publication known.


Williams-Ellis, Clough (1944) *A draft report on the future of Bewdley*. Known as typescript presented to RIBA Library (photocopy in Kidderminster Library Local Studies).

2.2 Local Authority plans: proposals produced by in-house staff, and Reports of Reconstruction etc. committees


(Belfast) (1941) R.S. Wilshere FRIBA seconded by the Education Authority “to the City Surveyor’s Department to administer the city’s reconstruction scheme” following air raid damage: *The Builder* CLX no. 5127, 9/5/41, p. 448.

Bennett, J.B. (1944) 'Proposals for reconstruction and replanning of Swansea central town centre', *Journal of the Institution of Municipal and County Engineers*, 7/11/44 pp. 116-129. Paper originally presented to the IMCE meeting at Swansea, 23/9/44. Bennett was Borough Engineer and Surveyor. A paper by Bennett, "Reconstruction and housing proposals of Swansea", was given at the Guildhall, Swansea, on 26/5/45: Architects' Journal 17/5/45 p. xxxvii.


Bolton, J.D. (1945) 'Berwick-on-Tweed: post-war planning and development', *Journal of the Institution of Municipal and County Engineers* 6/2/45 pp. 221-222. Bolton was Borough
(Bradford) Reconstruction planning under way in 1943-4. “a local architect has prepared a scheme and a special committee has been appointed to prepare a plan, whilst the Borough Engineer also has his own ideas” (progress report by R.H. Mattocks, Regional Planning Officer, 1/12/43: NA HLG 71/1212). By 2/44, “the central area proposals have now been amended fairly drastically in the latest rough draft, and although not satisfactory are much better than the first proposals” (PRO HLG 71/1212).


Cameron, W.S. (Sheffield) (1943) Proposals for city centre redevelopment, focusing on a new civic centre, street widening and straightening, and new approach from the railway station. Approved by the City Council. Col. W.S. Cameron MInstCE PPTPI was City Engineer. *Architect and Building News* 12/11/43, pp. 99-100.

(Canterbury) (1946) *Canterbury town planning scheme: recommendations of the Town Planning Committee, as approved by the Canterbury City Council, ... with regard to the final report of C. Holden and H.M. Enderby City Council, Canterbury.*

(Cardiff) The City Engineer is known to have produced plans for specific areas including the city centre (exhibited at a public exhibition; outline proposals commented upon favourably by the Ministry: PRO HLG 79/88).

(Carlisle) (1944) An outline plan prepared by the City Engineer was inspected – and criticised - by senior Ministry staff on 28/6/44 (PRO HLG 79/95).

Carr, H. (Welshpool) (c. 1943) “The usual rather amateur attempt at a planning scheme” produced by Carr, the Borough Surveyor (also called County Planning Officer); criticised by the Ministry, this plan was later withdrawn (PRO HLG 79/810).


(Coventry) (1945) *The future of Coventry: some proposals and suggestions for the physical reconstruction and planning of the City of Coventry,* Corporation of Coventry, Coventry, 44pp, 2/6. Some texts give the title as The future Coventry. *Summary & maps for the central area, attributed to Donald Gibson, in Gibberd, F. (1st ed 1953) Town design*


Dart, Reginald (1947) A town plan for the urban district of Turton, Turton Urban District Council, 77pp, 21/-.

Davies, B. Price (Bangor) (1941) Proposals for post-war redevelopment in Bangor, including detailed costings: prepared for the Nuffield College Social Reconstruction Survey (NA HLG 82/4). Davies was City Surveyor.

(Deal) (1947) Redevelopment scheme proposed following war damage. "An opportunity to wipe out a lot of old property of low rateable value and substitute something modern and hygienic to the benefit of the town" (Council's view). No publication known. Comment in Estates Gazette 21/6/47.

(Durham) (1944) Interim report of the Sub-Committee appointed ... to consider the planning and re-development of Durham City, Durham City and District Chamber of Trade, Durham, 17pp. Proposals were submitted to Sharp.

(Eastbourne) (1943) Post-war reconstruction, first report of the Post-War Reconstruction Committee, Eastbourne Borough Council. See Architect and Building News 28/1/44, p. 73.

(Edinburgh) (1943) The future of Edinburgh, report of the Advisory Committee on City Development, 46pp. The Committee was appointed on 6/5/43 “to report on the general considerations governing the development and redevelopment of Edinburgh as the capital of Scotland and the preparation of planning schemes”: report recommendations are given in Journal of the Institute of Municipal and County Engineers LXX 7/12/43, pp. xvi-xxii.


Franklin, Cyril (1943) Post-war reconstruction in Hereford: a preliminary study, Jakemans, Hereford, 40pp, 6d. Franklin was Chairman of Hereford's Reconstruction Committee. Another source gives title as ‘... preliminary survey'.

(Frinton) (1944) Mention that the Urban District Council is preparing a post-war reconstruction plan, albeit not for “improving” the town (Architects’ Journal 27/1/44, p. 75; 20/4/44,
p. 291).

(Gainsborough) (c. 1948) Typescript reports of Planning Officer, R.L. Stirling, on area of “extensive bomb damage”. But this is small – 2.5 acre central site. Not really a “reconstruction plan” (HLG 79/181).


Green, John W. (1945) Preliminary report on town planning for the City of Durham, Durham City Council, Durham, 38pp. Green was City Engineer and Architect; this report in part evaluates Sharp's proposals.

Greenwood, Charles (1945) Chester: a plan for redevelopment, Phillipson & Golder, Chester, 90pp. By the City Engineer and Surveyor: "The plan is not a statutory planning scheme. It is an outline of what the City may aim at over a long period of years". Reviewed in The Builder, 26/7/46, pp. 82-83; Architect and Building News, 9/8/46, p. 90; Architects' Journal, 3/10/46, pp. 241-244.

Grundy, F. and Titmuss, R.M. et al. (1945) Report on Luton Gibbs, Bamforth & Co., Luton, 139pp. Grundy was Medical Officer of Health; Titmuss was Statistical Advisor to the Council; but architectural and urban design issues also well covered.

Hadfield, C.N. (1944) Island survey: a review of existing conditions together with an outline of suggested planning proposals in the Isle of Man.

Harvey, A.D. and Ashton, G. (1944) A design for Dunstable, Dunstable Borough Council, Dunstable, 3d.

Hastwell, G.D. and Walker-Smith, Jonah (1944) Development of Barrow-in-Furness, Barrow and District Development Committee, Barrow-in-Furness, 34pp, 1/-. Hastwell was Mayor; Sir Jonah Walker-Smith was a local MP. Principally for industrial development.

Hill, George E., Fuller, Maurice and Hockley, Douglas H.E. (1945) Gravesend redevelopment plan, central area (draft proposals), '1 sheet'.

Hill, George E. (1945) Gravesend: development scheme for central area including Thames waterfront, reviewed by H.V. Lanchester in Architects' Journal, 13/12/45, pp. 429-432;


Howe, D.J. (1943) Unofficial suggestions by Howe, Borough Engineer and Surveyor of Brighton: two ring roads, removal of industry and parking from sea front, new approach road to station, retention of The Lanes as museum pieces etc. Estates Gazette 10/7/43, p. 32.

(Huddersfield) (1944) The Town Council appointed a Town Planning Committee “to consider the plans that have been drawn up for the reconstruction of Huddersfield, which include ... a new civic centre ...” Architect and Building News 10/3/44 p. 173.

(Hull) (1942-43) Light, A.C. 'Hull of the Future', and extracts from Minutes of the Works Committee and Town Planning Sub-Committee headed "post-war replanning and reconstruction", in Guild of Building Review pp. 5-18 (RIBA Catalogue)


Jay, L.S. (1945) Survey and planning scheme for Ryde, Isle of Wight. No details; known from NA HLG 79/249. Jay made a much more detailed later report to the Redevelopment Plan Sub-Committee, 7/48, but this really relates more to the Development Plan.

Jones, W. Edgar (1943) Report on post-war planning 15pp typescript, 10/43. Jones was Borough Engineer and Surveyor.


(Leeds) Reconstruction planning under way in 1943-4, but by 2/44 “proposals for the central area have been subject to a lot of criticism” (PRO HLG 71/1212).

Second Report of the Post-war Development and Housing Sub-committee, 49pp, 6d. This was the Final Report of the Sub-committee.

Lewis, J.E. (Sunderland County Borough) (1943) first set of “suggestions for post-war planning and reconstruction”, referring to “the Plan as exhibited” (NA HLG 71/1288).

Little, S. (Hastings) (1946) Borough Engineer’s proposals for redevelopment of town centre at Memorial, 3pp. Sydney Little was Borough Engineer and Town Planning Development Officer. Models of a ‘double-decked’ part of the town were presented at the conference of the International Federation of Housing and Town Planning, held in Hastings in 1946 – was it this proposal? (Architects’ Journal 17/10/46, p. 276; Architect and Building News 18/10/46, p. 40; The Builder 18/10/46, pp. 404-405 with good views of the model).

First Report of the Post-War Redevelopment Advisory (Special) Committee on Reconstruction Proposals for the City, Liverpool City Council, Liverpool, 38pp. W.H. Baines named on cover; he was the Town Clerk. These proposals adopted by the City Council on 3/4/46. Brief description by H.V.L. [Lanchester], Builder, CLXX no. 5384, 12/4/46, pp. 362-363; reviewed by Architects’ Journal 27/6/46, pp. 483-486. The Corporation’s reconstruction proposals for 46.25 acres of the city centre were confirmed by the Minister in 1949; see Estates Gazette 29/1/49. A.E. Shennan gave a paper ‘The post-war reconstruction of Liverpool’ to the Merseyside Civic Society, excerpted in Architect & Building News 26/12/41, pp. 194-195.

Report on post-war planning, 16pp typescript, 12/3/43.


(London: Westminster) (1946) A new plan for Pimlico, Town Planning and Improvements


(Malvern) (1944) Report of Post-War Planning Committee, Malvern Urban District Council, 6d.

(Manchester) (1943) ’Replanning of Manchester: proposals by staff of Manchester Corporation', Journal of the Institution of Municipal and County Engineers, 12/10/43 pp. xxiv-xxvii

(Manchester) (1946) First Report of the Town Planning and Buildings Committee upon the tentative planning proposals, City Council, Manchester, 61pp, 10/6. Presumably refers to the Nicholas plan, 1945; strange to describe this as ’tentative’?


Marchant, P.V. (Dover) (1947) Report on the reconstruction of Dover in support of Declaratory Order under the 1944 Act. Philip Marchant was Borough Engineer and Surveyor, and had completed “sketch proposals” by June 1945. "Frequent consultations have taken place between Professor Abercrombie and Mr Marchant". Estates Gazette 21/6/47, p. 445. Plans reviewed briefly by H.V. Lanchester, The Builder 13/6/47, p. 590. Inquiry into Order held in July 1948: Estates Gazette 24/7/47, pp. 64-5; 2/8/47, pp. 82-83. (See also Abercrombie.)


Meredith, J.N. (1944) Bristol central area replanning scheme (J. Nelson Meredith FRIBA was City Architect), reviewed in The Builder, 9/6/44, pp. 460-461; Building, 6/44, pp. 158-160; Meredith spoke on ‘The reconstruction of Bristol’ at the Housing Centre, 30/9/41, briefly excerpted in Architect & Building News 10/10/41, p. 19. But the shopping precinct alone was designed by the City Architect’s Department; the central area layout was by the Town Clerk, City Engineer (also Chief Planning Officer) and City Architect: see The Builder 16/6/44, p. 476.

Minns, A.A. (Farnham) (1944) Post-war development and reconstruction, Farnham UDC, Farnham, 44pp. Minns was Clerk and Financial Officer. Mostly a review of pre-war decisions; difficult to discern many new proposals.

(Newmarket) (1945) Interim report on post-war planning for the development of Newmarket presented by the Town Planning Committee to the Council, Newmarket Urban District Council, Newmarket, 15pp, 6d.

Nicholas, R. (1945) City of Manchester Plan, Jarrold, Manchester, 274pp, 12/6. By the City Surveyor & Engineer; begun c. 1943. Described by Nicholas in Journal of the TPI, 9-


(Nottingham) (1943) Report of the Reconstruction Committee on post-war development in the City of Nottingham, City of Nottingham Council, Nottingham, 37pp. Committee Chair was William Crane.


Oxenbury, T.B. and Gentry, G.A.M. (1950) Outline plan for Lowestoft, Borough of Lowestoft and County Planning Committee, East Suffolk County Council. Known in typescript as a report to these Councils. Oxenbury was County Planning Officer; Gentry was Lowestoft’s Borough Engineer and Surveyor. Reviewed in Town Planning Review vol. 22 no. 2, 1951, pp. 165-166; briefly in Town & Country Planning vol. XIX no. 84, 1951, pp. 189-190, by J. Whittle.

(Oxford) (1941) The future planning of the city, report submitted to the Council by the City Engineer.

Parker, K.K. (1943) A report on the planning and reconstruction of the County Borough of Great Yarmouth, Great Yarmouth Borough Council, Great Yarmouth, 94pp, 1/- Parker was Town Planning Officer. An exhibition, with model, was held (Architects’ Journal 27/1/44, p. 82). In 1948 Yarmouth sought powers for compulsory purchase for reconstruction after considerable war damage: a public inquiry was held but no separate plan seems to have been produced. The inquiry did not refer to the 1943 report (Estates Gazette 22 May 1948, pp. 390-392).


(Portsmouth) (1943) Interim Report of the Special Committee as to the Re-planning of
Portsmouth, Portsmouth City Council, unpublished. Drafted by F.A.C. Maunder FRIBA
AMTPI: "a comprehensive outline plan, dealing with such matters as zoning, road
communications, housing and the establishment of two satellite towns" (Hasegawa,
2000, p. 49). Also known as F.A.C. Maunder, 'Interim Report of the Deputy City
Architect'.

(Portsmouth) (1944) Report of Planning and Reconstruction Committee, Portsmouth Borough
Council, Portsmouth, 18pp. This report is not cited in Hasegawa's paper on the
reconstruction of Portsmouth (2000).

(Portsmouth) (1946) Report of Planning and Reconstruction Committee: designation of areas of
extensive war damage and application for declaratory order (Town and Country
Planning Act 1944, Section 1), Portsmouth Borough Council, Portsmouth, 18pp.
Officer and Reconstruction Architect' and described by H.V. Lanchester in The Builder
7/6/46, pp. 552-554. An Inquiry into the application for a declaratory order under the
1944 Act, seeking compulsory purchase powers for 500 acres, was held in late 1947:
Estates Gazette 22/11/47, p. 398; 29/11/47, pp. 416-417; 6/12/47, p. 424. This may have
been spurred by a separate report of the same title: Hasegawa, 2000, notes 33 and 46.

Pratt, F.W. (1947) City of Portsmouth outline and reconstruction plan, City of Portsmouth.
Pratt was City Planning Officer from mid-1946 until his death in late 1949. Earlier
reconstruction planning, from mid-1941 to 5/46, was undertaken by F.A.C. Maunder.
Hasegawa (2000) seems to suggest that this is also found as 'Report by the City Planning
Officer', PRO:HLG 71/15 dated 9/1/47; Hasegawa also reports on the Ministry's critical
reception of it (p. 53).

Reid, John (South Shields) (1946) A 50-year development plan by Reid, the Borough Engineer,
was approved by the Corporation: The Builder CLXXI no. 5409, 4/10/46, p. 357.

(Sheffield) (1941) The Town Planning and Civic Centre Committee “to proceed actively with
the central planning scheme”, seeking release from RAF service of C.G. Craven, its
Town Planning Officer. Craven had worked with Abercrombie and R. Nicholas, then
City Engineer, on pre-war “central plans”: The Builder CLX no. 5120, 21/3/41, p. 289.
Produced “general development plan” 12/5/41 (NA HLG 79/635).

(Sheffield) (1944) H.J. Manzoni invited to review three schemes prepared by Sheffield planners
and one by local architects and surveyors. Manzoni seems to have produced his own
composite. Estates Gazette 3/6/44, p. 536. "Design based on schemes prepared by city
officials and Sheffield and S. Yorks Society of Architects" reviewed in The Builder

(Sheffield) (1945) "Sheffield central street planning scheme", J.M. Collie and Henry Foster
(described as "the City's Engineers") criticised by C. Stewart, Architects' Journal

(Sheffield) (1945) Sheffield replanned: a report, with plates, diagrams and illustrations, setting
out the problems in replanning the city and the proposals of the Sheffield Town Planning
Committee, City Council, Sheffield, 74pp, 5/-.


(Shoreham) (1948) West Sussex County Council submitted a “part development plan” on 28/10/48; “the plan covers an area consisting of 540 acres of land where extensive demolition took place by the military authorities during the war”: The Builder 5/11/48, p. 522. See next entry.

(Shoreham) (1951) Shoreham and Lancing Beaches development plan, West Sussex County Council, 8pp. Note that if this is a true ‘1947-style’ development plan, this publication must be only an abstract.

Sims, J.R. (1948) A plan for Bideford. An outline development plan and report for Bideford, Borough of Bideford, Bideford, 31pp. The only copies known are mimeoed; possibly not published.

(Southampton) RIBA Library evidence suggests a plan exists, drawn up by Hubert Bennett, Borough Architect. No bibliographical data known. Major public inquiry on redevelopment scheme reported in Estates Gazette 5/10/46 pp. 313-314, 12/10/46 pp. 347-348, 19/10/46 pp. 362-363 and 26/10/46 pp. 395-396. Borough Engineer and Surveyor was then F.L. Wooldridge. This was not the Adshead and Cook plan! H. Collins gave an address on ‘The reconstruction of Southampton’ to the Housing Centre, excerpted briefly in Architect & Building News 30/5/41, pp. 127-8.

(Southampton) (1947) First section of plan approved by Council, described and illustrated in The Builder 20/6/47, pp. 604-607. Ascribed to Denis Winston BArch MA ARIBA MTP, Borough Architect; F.L. Wooldridge MInstCE MInstME, Borough Engineer; consultant architects, Messrs Johnson and Crabtree FFRIBA, and other Council officers. The RIBA Library has designs for redevelopment of Southampton city centre by William Crabtree and the City Architect: RAN 75/L/6(1-8).

(Southend-on-Sea) (1944) Report of the Special Committee appointed to consider the subject of post-war development, County Borough of Southend-on-Sea. Briefly noted in Architects’ Journal 19/10/44 p. 277.

Southgate, F.G. (1942) ( Lowestoft) A preliminary memorandum on reconstruction was drawn up in February 1942, by the Borough Surveyor, F.G. Southgate, for the Planning and Reconstruction Committee, on “main lines by which the town would develop after the war”, Municipal Journal 24/4/42, p. 505; 22/5/42, p. 625; 29/5/42, p. 672 which notes a civic centre proposal. Copy in NA HLG 79/388: 14p typescript. Based on this, a "well conceived" and "rather drastic" plan by the Borough Engineer was published in 1944; highly praised by the Ministry "as being a forward looking approach to the problem of preparing a development scheme": Hasegawa, ‘The rise and fall of radical reconstruction’, 1999, p. 144; referring to PRO HLG 79/388.

(Swansea) RIBA Library evidence suggests a plan exists, drawn up by E.E. Morgan, Borough Architect. No bibliographical data known; but see Bennett above.


Taylor, M.E. (c. 1950) St Andrews: a scheme by Thomas Sharp and M.E. Taylor (by then County Planning Officer of Fife) was “severely modified by the Council”, criticised by one as having been proposed “by one without sufficient knowledge of St Andrews and its traditions”: The Architect & Building News 16/6/50, p. 617.


Todd, J.W. and Weddle, S. (1945) Towards a plan for Richmond, Surrey, Richmond Borough Council, Richmond, 18pp, 1/-.. Todd was Borough Engineer; Weddle was Deputy Borough Engineer. Exhibition held in Town Hall 14-28/4/45. Reviewed in Journal of the Town Planning Institute 7-8/45, p. 186.


(Wakefield) (1943) Report on proposed replanning of the central area of the City of Wakefield, City of Wakefield, Wakefield, 12pp. Marked "Confidential". A model of a replanning scheme for the town centre by S.G. Wardley was exhibited at the ‘Practical Planning’ conference and exhibition at the Institute of Civil Engineers, 10/43; see The Builder CLXV no. 5254, 15/10/43, p. 309. See also Wardley, S.G. (1944) ’Replanning the central area of Wakefield’, Proceedings of the Institution of Municipal and County Engineers LXX 4/1/44, pp. 248-262: paper illustrated with models and maps. Wardley, BSc AssocMInstCE MIMun&CyEng was City Engineer, Surveyor and Architect.

(Walsall) (1943) Walsall: a town plan, Public Works Committee, County Borough of Walsall, Walsall, 8pp, 6d.

(Walthamstow) (1946) Towards a plan for Walthamstow, Reconstruction and Housing Committee, Borough of Walthamstow, Walthamstow, 16pp + illustrations. Also a supplementary volume, "Proposed scheme for reconstruction of the St James Street area" (1947). F.G. Southgate, Borough Architect, responsible for much of this.
Warwick, P.H. (1944) *First report on the redevelopment of the city and neighbourhood unit principles* (Winchester). Warwick was City Engineer and Planning Officer. Reviewed in Journal of the Town Planning Institute 3-4/45, p. 120.


(Wolverhampton) (1945) *Wolverhampton of the future*, Wolverhampton Council, Wolverhampton, 28pp, 2/-.


(Wolverhampton) (1945) *Report of the Reconstruction Committee to the Council*, Wolverhampton Council, Wolverhampton, 25pp. Includes report on the Council's proposals (the 1944 booklet, see above) by E. Berry Webber, architect, who had been commissioned to undertake a plan in 1939 but which was curtailed by the war.

(Yorkshire) (1943) *Second report of the West Riding Reconstruction Committee*. 
2.3 Publicity versions of the actual Plans, publicity brochures; exhibition catalogues etc.

It appears that a number of formal reconstruction plans were accompanied by smaller, cheaper editions designed for a broader public readership. However, one must recall that some of the plans themselves were produced as relatively small brochures aimed at the public - eg Wolverhampton's, priced 2/-, and so there was no further smaller version. Also included here are brochures to accompany civic planning exhibitions, as these were often a preliminary stage and did not form formal published proposals. This section also includes discussions of proposals in journals, for which no other publication is known, since this publication acts as professional publicity and visibility.


(Bilston) (1944) *Bilston civic survey exhibition*, Borough of Bilston Development and Reconstruction Committee, Bilston, 23pp. Detailed brochure to accompany exhibition at Bilston Art Gallery, September 1944. (See also Section 3.)

(Brierley Hill, Dudley) (1944) *Town planning and post-war reconstruction*, Official brochure, Brierley Hill Urban District Council, Brierley Hill, 6d.

(Canterbury) (?) *Canterbury's problem: the answer is your responsibility*, Canterbury City Council, Canterbury, 5pp. Post-dates Holden's plan.


Chapman, W. Dobson & Partners (1951) *Exhibition of the city survey and plan*. Aberdeen, 24pp, 1/-. *Exhibition brochure; text by Charles F. Riley.*

(Coventry) (1945) *Coventry of the Future: guide to the exhibition in the Drill Hall*, Coventry. 12pp, 3d.

(Crewe) (1946) *Exhibition of plans and model of a section of the central town improvement* Borough of Crewe. *Souvenir exhibition programme*, 16pp; exhibition opened 27 May 1946.


(Glasgow) (1946) Your Glasgow: its future. An exhibition illustrating the proposals contained in the first and second planning reports submitted by the City Engineer to the Highways and Planning Committee, Glasgow Corporation, Glasgow, 13pp.

(Grimsby) (1944) Grimsby tomorrow: a guide to the exhibition of models, plans, perspective drawings and other information, illustrating the proposed post-war re-planning and development of the County Borough of Grimsby, 8pp.


Hull and District Chamber of Commerce (1949) Replanning Kingston upon Hull, Chamber of Commerce, Hull.


(Liverpool) Architects' Journal 27/6/46, pp. 483-486 discusses Liverpool's redevelopment and reconstruction proposals.


(Liverpool) (1947) Illustrated brochure issued by the Post-war Redevelopment Advisory (Special) Committee in connection with the introductory town planning exhibition, Radiant House, Bold Street, Liverpool, 30 June to 26 July 1947, City Planning Department, Liverpool, 46pp. RIBA Library accessions list seemingly does not give title.

Lock, Max (1943) Civic diagnosis: a blitzed city analysed. An outline summary of planning
research undertaken by the Hull Regional Survey and Guide to the Interim Exhibition shown in London and Hull, July 1943 ..., Housing Centre/Hull Regional Survey, Hull, 16pp. Introduction reprinted from World Review, 7/43; remainder is short section-by-section guide. The subtitle, and several other corrections, pasted in.


(London) (1943) Your London has a plan Association of Building Technicians, London, 28pp., 6d. Foreword by Lewis Silkin MP.


Nicholas, R. (1945) City of Manchester Plan: abridged edition, Jarrold, Manchester, 51pp, 3/-. By the City Surveyor & Engineer; begun c. 1943; see section 2.1 for full version.


Sharp, Thomas (1945) *Plan for future development* (Exeter) Exeter City Council, Exeter, 8pp. Copy held by Devon Library and Information Services, Exeter; according to the Librarian this is an exhibition brochure.


(Twickenham) (1946) *Looking backward and looking forward to the future Twickenham: a review and prospect etc.* Twickenham Borough Council, Twickenham, 28pp. Brochure prepared in connection with a Housing and Town Planning exhibition.

(Wolverhampton) (1945) *A Housing and Planning Exhibition was held in the Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton, 24 January-7 February*. This was to accompany and publicise Wolverhampton's 1944 brochure.
2.4 Unofficial plans and proposals

There are also some extremely interesting unofficial, or even personal, planning proposals; together with others produced by (for example) Chambers of Trade, local newspapers, etc.


Bedford Council of Social Service (1944) BCSS conducted a ‘non-official’ survey and made a range of replanning suggestions. Not published at the time. Published, with some updating, in 1950 as Bedford: a survey BCSS, Bedford.


(Bristol) (1943) A Bristol Planning Advisory Committee, with 140 associations as members, organised by the Bristol Chamber of Commerce and Shipping. An Interim Report is noted by The Builder CLXIV no. 5216, 22/1/43, p. 82.

(Bristol) (1944) Watson, K.J. 'A plan for Bristol', The Parthenon (journal of the Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors), 1/44. Reprinted as a 5-page pamphlet, subtitled "A brief description of the interim proposals of the Western Counties Chapter of the Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors for the replanning of the city of Bristol including redevelopment of the central area".


(Bristol) (1945) Plan for a civic district around Victoria Street, “prepared by a Bristol architect for the Rotary Club of Bristol”, The Builder 21/12/45, p. 500.


Cadbury, P.S. (1952) Birmingham - fifty years on, Bournville Village Trust, Birmingham, 95pp. More forward looking than a mere reconstruction plan although with some similar aspirational and futuristic illustrations; character of publications is changing by this time.

Croad, A. and Bennett, F. (1942) 'Bermondsey's riverside: proposals for reconstruction', commentaries on proposals, perspectives and model exhibited at Cement and Concrete Association, reviewed in *Architect and Building News* 18/9/42 pp. 172-173; *Architectural Design and Construction* 10/42; *The Builder* 18/9/42 p. 243; *Parthenon* 10/42. Croad described as "engineer" and Bennett ARIBA. These must be the “certain technical officers of the Ministry of Home Security” described in the *Architect & Building News* review.


Dale, T. Lawrence (c. 1945) Scheme for Christ Church Mall, Oxford; apparently published by Faber.


Georgian Group (undated) *Report on Cheltenham* Georgian Group, London, 16pp, 1/-.. *Advice sought in April 1944 by Cheltenham Borough Council’s Planning Committee “in regard to the redevelopment and reconstruction of Cheltenham”.*

Hawkins, L.M. (c. 1940) *Building for beauty and how not to do it*, Sidney Press, Bedford. *Critique of Bedford's design "blunders".*

(King's Lynn) (1944) *Post-war plans for King's Lynn*, King's Lynn Chamber of Trade and Commerce, King's Lynn, 22pp.


(London: Stepney) (1943) Reconstruction proposals by an amateur group exhibited at the Whitechapel Art Gallery, opened by Lewis Silkin MP: The Builder CLXV no. 5255, 22/10/43, p. 330

(Merseyside) (1944) Merseyside of the future: an analysis of 10,000 ideas, Liverpool Daily Post & Echo Ltd, Liverpool, 78pp, 2/6. Ideas submitted by the general public in response to competition sponsored by the newspaper and Merseyside Civic Society in response to request by the Post-War Re-development Advisory (Special) Committee of Liverpool City Council. Foreword by Viscount Leverhulme (one of the judges). Reviewed in Journal of the Town Planning Institute 5-6/45, p. 141. First Prize of 50 guineas was won by Corporal Leslie Ginsburg RE, later first Head of the Birmingham School of Planning: Eighth Army News undated c. 1944.

leaves & maps. Note inside front cover: "Prepared pursuant to Section 5(i) of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1949, and presented to the Town Planning Committee of the Oxford City Council, March 1949".

Morling, S.B. (1943) Unofficial proposals for replanning Bedford, Bedfordshire Times and Standard 15, 22, 29/10/43. Alderman Morling was a member of the Joint Town Planning Committee for the County of Bedfordshire, and was appointed Chairman of Bedford Borough Council’s Town Planning Committee in December 1942.

Morrell, J.B. (1940) The city of our dreams, Fountain Press, London, 63pp. New edition, 1955, St Anthony's Press, 150pp. On York. "The following pages are the substance of a paper that I had the privilege of reading when the guest of the York Rotarians a short time ago. The illustrations which have been added give a much better idea of the suggested improvements than was possible by a verbal description, and are the justification for publishing this book."

Oldacre, W.B. and McKellen, G.D. (c. 1948) "To take occasion by the hand ... " A memorandum on town planning and reconstruction, no publisher, 20pp. Stoke on Trent.


Rowe, Michael (1946) Reproduction of the Address to the Inspector by Mr Michael Rowe at the Local Inquiry ..., Central Area Association of Southampton, Southampton, 24pp. Rowe was a KC and frequently appeared at public inquiries objecting to reconstruction proposals. Claimed that the Council's plan was hardly more than a road plan. See Estates Gazette 5/10/46 and subsequent issues for coverage of this inquiry. See also The Builder 24/10/47, p. 466.

Rushford, Frank H. (1944) City beautiful: a vision of Durham, Durham County Advertiser and General Printing Company, Durham, 58pp. Written after Sharp's commission, "this book attempts to put forward a vision of what might be done to add to the distinction and attractiveness of the city ...".


(Sheffield) (1942) Proposals of a Special Committee “concerned with Town Planning and Civic
Centre”, with the assistance of “a small body of local professional men and others presided over by Mr H. de B. Archer, who, to enable them to act with independence, constituted themselves a Town Planning Assembly”: brief note of report, Municipal Journal 30/1/42 p. 131.


(Swansea) (1944) The re-development of the Shopping Centre: observations and representations of Messrs Ben Evans & Co. Ltd 12pp, dated 22/2/44.

(Swansea Valley) (1944) ‘Our plan for the Swansea Valley’, Picture Post, 8/1/44, pp. 18-24 (and readers’ letters, 15/1/44, p. 3; 22/1/44, p. 3. A well-illustrated demonstration project.


Tunbridge Wells Civic Society (?) Traditions and future, Tunbridge Wells Civic Society.

3. Social surveys etc informing the plan-making process

(For the origins of these surveys see Harrison, Shelby M. (1931) The social survey: the idea defined and its development traced, Russell Sage Foundation, New York, 42pp. Specific detail is given in Waide, W.L. and Tyrwhitt, J. (1949) Basic surveys for planning: an attempt by specialists in conference with Kent County officers to outline a scheme for surveys satisfying the requirements of the 1947 Town Planning Act Association for Planning and Regional Reconstruction, London, 42pp; Maunder, F.A.C. (1945) 'A factual basis for reconstruction', Journal of the Town Planning Institute 1-2/45 pp. 40-49; Lock, M. (1946) 'Surveys and their practical application to planning', paper read to the Town Planning Institute, 21/2/46, excerpted in Builder, CLXX no. 5378, 1/3/46, pp. 219-220. This type of survey was needed for Town Planning Schemes under the 1932 Town and Country Planning Act and the 1947 Act.)

(Anstruther) Fife County Council Planning Committee (1949) Area no 3 Anstruther District: A survey and analysis, no publisher given, 90pp. "The following report is a SURVEY of the East Neuk of Fife and in no way should it be looked upon as a plan for this area" (from preface).

(Bilston) (1944) Bilston civic survey: a study of population and industry as it exists in Bilston, Bilston, mimeoed, 27pp. Distinct from the Exhibition brochure, see Section 2.3; no copy survives in local archives.


Higson, T.H. (Hyde) (n.d. c. 1943) A plan for the re-development of the central area, Hyde Borough Council, Hyde, 8pp. Higson was Borough Engineer and Surveyor.


(Middlesbrough) (1945) *Social survey*, Association for Planning and Regional Reconstruction and War Time Social Survey. *Associated with Lock's plan*.


4. A sample of UK large-scale plans

For example to county or regional scale; a sample to demonstrate the differences between this scale of plan and the – generally – spatially smaller-scale reconstruction plans.


Abercrombie, Patrick and Jackson, Herbert (1949) North Staffordshire Plan, prepared for the Minister of Town and Country Planning ... The Ministry, London, 318pp. Unpublished; mimeoed copies known, described as "interim confidential edition", "Advance Edition of the North Staffordshire Plan". Reviewed in Journal of the Town Planning Institute January 1950 p. 72; Estates Gazette 15/10/49, p. 326, described as "extensively illustrated with maps and diagrams and there are detailed appendices..." but "has been sent to all local authorities concerned by the Ministry", no mention of wider publication.


Barber, E. (ed.) (1946) To-morrow in East Sussex: a contribution ... towards post-war planning Sussex Rural Community Council / Estates Gazette Ltd, London, 212pp. Written by members of the Committee; Barber was former editor of Economic Review and Country Life. Reviewed in Estates Gazette 25/5/46, p. 479


(Buckinghamshire) (1950) Outline development plan for Buckinghamshire, Buckinghamshire
(Caithness) Edinburgh College of Art (1949) *Caithness county survey*, no publisher given, 111 A3 pp. Carried out by planning students, but funded by the County Council as part of its post-1947 planning responsibilities.


(Kent) Kent County Council (1948) *Planning basis for Kent* Kent CC, Maidstone, 121pp.

Comprehensive survey undertaken for the new Act, but having presentation more similar to earlier reconstruction plans. Described by H.V. Lanchester, *The Builder* CLXXIV no. 5496, 18/6/48, p. 739.


Mears, Frank (1948) *A regional survey and plan for Central and South-East Scotland*, Regional Planning Advisory Committee, Edinburgh, 180pp.


5. A sample of overseas reconstruction / post-war plans by UK planners


Abercrombie, Patrick (1948) *Nicosia: preliminary planning report*, Nicosia, 24pp. Some bibliographical confusion between this and the Cyprus item. Manno & Inch refer to Cyprus but not Nicosia; other sources vice-versa.


Abercrombie, Patrick, Kelly, Sydney A. and Robertson, Manning (1941) *Town planning report: County Borough of Dublin and neighbourhood*, Dublin Corporation, Dublin, 62pp, 2/-.

Sketch development plan; Abercrombie's second plan for Dublin (first was early 1920s). Not a true "reconstruction" plan: originated in Council resolution 6/1/1936; report dated 7/1938; published version also has "Supplementary Report ... on changed conditions due to the war". *Reviewed in Town & Country Planning* 1942, vol. 10 no. 38, p. 60.

(Abercrombie was also consultant in Malta from 1948 and for Addis Ababa from 1946 – where a typescript Master Plan was presented by Nickson in 1956.)


6. For comparison: a sample of UK pre-1939 plans

A small sample of pre-war plans to suggest that the concerns of the wartime and immediate post-war plans were not entirely new departures: see, for example, both the progression of ideas, presentation, and also similarities of Abercrombie's pre-war and reconstruction plans.


(Harrogate) (1939) *Memorandum for ... development in the area of the proposed Harrogate & District Planning Scheme*, Harrogate & District Regional Planning Committee, Harrogate, 16pp.


7. Published literature on reconstruction planning

Omitting related fields including employment, the building industry, legislation, finance, New Towns; not a fully comprehensive review of articles in contemporary periodicals. Note that Nicholas Bullock wrote in 1993 that "there is a vast primary literature on reconstruction: each publisher seemed to run his own reconstruction series. For a summary see P. Addison, The road to 1945 (London, 1975), chapter VI".

7.1 Contemporary


Architectural Press (c. 1943) Planning for reconstruction, Architectural Press, Cheam. Interesting attempt to present reconstruction to the broader public.


Calder, R. (1941) *Start planning Britain now*, London.


Clunn, Harold P. (1947) *London marches on: a record of the changes which have taken place in the metropolis of the British empire between the two world wars and much that is scheduled for reconstruction*, Caen, London.


*(Coventry)* *Building* (1951) 'The face of Coventry', *Building* (January) pp. 8-17.


Fawcett, C.B. (1944) *A residential unit for town and country planning*, University of London, London. *Attempt to define a unit of residential settlement for social purposes.*


Fry, Maxwell (1944) *Fine building*, Faber, London, 156pp. *Influential study, containing material on the MARS plan.*


Gibson, D. (1941) 'Post-war reconstruction', The Surveyor and Municipal and County Engineer 18/4/41.


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Institute of Municipal and County Engineers (1942) Post-war planning and reconstruction: roads, transport, urban development, Institute of Municipal and County Engineers, London.

Institute of Park Administration (c. 1944) Post-war planning and reconstruction: as visualised by the Institute of Park Administration, Institute of Park Administration, London, 16pp. Role of parks and memorials in post-war planning.


Limon, A. (1949) ‘The cost of redevelopment’, Journal of the Town Planning Institute November-December, pp. 10-14. This was a report on the rebuilding costs for Max Lock’s Hartlepool plan: Limon was Borough Treasurer.


Meredith, J. Nelson (1949-50) 'Post-war municipal development in Bristol', *Journal of the Royal Institute of British Architects* May, pp. 257-265. *CHECK see OAP same pagination?*


Myerscough-Walker, R. (1943) 'What is a town: an analysis of the plans for London', *National Builder*, 12/43 pp. 89-

Nuffield College Social Reconstruction Survey (1943) *Britain's town and country pattern*, London.

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Retailers' Advisory Committee on Town Planning (1944) *The planning of shopping areas ... setting out the principles which should be followed in planning shopping areas*, Retailers' Advisory Committee on Town Planning, London, 16pp.

Royal Institute of British Architects (c. 1943) *Towards a new Britain*, Architectural Press, Cheam, for the RIBA. *Published to accompany the 'Rebuilding Britain' exhibition.*

Royal Institute of British Architects (1943) *Rebuilding Britain*, Lund Humphries, London. *Published on the occasion of the 'Rebuilding Britain' exhibition.*

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Royal Institute of British Architects, Reconstruction Committee (1942) 'First general statement of conclusions', *Journal of the Royal Institute of British Architects* vol. 49 no. 10.


Taylor, Maurice E. (1944) *A short explanation ... of work involved in the preparation of planning schemes*, West Monmouthshire Joint Planning Committee, Monmouth.


Wright, H. Myles (1955) ’The first ten years', *Town Planning Review* vol. 26 no. 2. *Deals mostly with housing.*

**Influential official publications**


**For comparison, post-World War I**

7.2 More recent scholarship


*The paper is based on descriptions of Abercrombie and the Plymouth plan.*

*Abstract:* The convergence of two seemingly distinct discourses - those of medical science and planning - in the period of urban reconstruction at the close of the Second World War is discussed. It is suggested that planners in 1940s Britain conceptualized urban reconstruction by employing the visual imagery and rhetoric of contemporary ‘medical aesthetics’. The convergence of these ideas was purposeful: medical knowledge and its newly-emerging aesthetics transplanted itself easily into the imaginative realms of urban reconstruction so that planners and architects alike could visualize the social, moral and architectural improvements to be made to the city in terms of diagnosis, cure and treatment. Reconstruction was not simply building cities anew: it also involved a vision of post-war life in its full cultural complexity.

Brayshay, M. (ed.) (1983) *Post-war Plymouth: planning and reconstruction: essays marking the fortieth anniversary of the 1943 Plan for Plymouth* South West Papers in Geography, no. 8, Plymouth Polytechnic, Plymouth. Includes chapters by J. Goodridge on the context of the plan; B. Chalkley on the city centre, and on housing; C. Charlton on transport; and D. Grafton on the rural fringe.


*Abstract:* This paper explores the relationship between the wartime ideas and the post-war practice of reconstruction by focusing on the London County Council's post-war housing programme. Given the importance of housing as one of the key issues on the home front, why had so little been achieved by 1951?

The article describes the development of the LCC's post-war housing plans and the absolute priority given to building as many houses as quickly as possible, a decision which led the Valuer to return to a pre-war approach to location, layout and design of housing. This led directly to a conflict of interests, first, with the Council's architect, Forshaw, who wished to improve the quality of design and to ensure that LCC housing matched the standards proposed by the Dudley Report (1944), and, second, with the plans produced by Abercrombie and Forshaw for both the County and the London region. The strength of the Council's support for priorities being pursued by the Valuer is evident in the transfer of responsibility for the design of housing from the Architect to the Valuer. In the interest of social priorities, the LCC was prepared to set aside, or at least to postpone, the realisation of the wartime ideals of raising housing standards and the replanning of London.

In practice however the Valuer was unable to meet targets that had been agreed for the LCC's programme. Not only was the London region beset by all the difficulties that held up the housing drive nationally, it was particularly affected by the scale of the war-damage repair programme which was much worse in the capital than elsewhere, and which had first call on the scarce resources that would otherwise have been used to build
new housing. The article ends by arguing that it was more the failure to live up to the promises of the programme, than the attacks by the architectural establishment on the poor architectural quality of the LCC's housing that led to the transfer back to the Architect's Department of responsibility for the design and layout of housing.


Abstract: From 1940 to 1942 Malta sustained severe bombing and extensive damage. The paper analyses the plans for reconstruction that were made by the appointed consultants from 1943, and the way they and others implemented them. The experience of the consultants, Harrison and Hubbard, is traced, and it is concluded that they quickly developed sensitivity to the Maltese context. It is found that where Harrison and Hubbard carried out their own proposals generally positive outcomes resulted, but that where other designers worked at implementation their decisions often undermined the original design intentions. The difficulty of conveying the ’knowing’ of strategies by their authors to those who may take them on later is identified as a continuing challenge for urban design today.


Brief overview and commentary.


Abstract: Through the detailed examination of a case study, namely Plymouth, the paper explores the reasons for the demise of the regional planning framework, originally advocated by writers such as Ebenezer Howard, Patrick Geddes, Charles Fawcett and Patrick Abercrombie, in the early postwar years. Plymouth’s reconstruction plan, prepared by Abercrombie and Paton Watson in 1943, was devised as a framework for planning an entire city region of 140 square miles (36,269 hectares). In order to unpack the complex history of the development and ultimate rejection of the city-region model for planning in Britain, engagement is required with human narrative that drives decision making and determines the paths pursued at key moments of change. This historical case study, drawing on the exceptionally full surviving archives, highlights not only the role of Patrick Abercrombie in shaping Plymouth’s post-war future, but also the clash of all the individuals at the local and national level engaged in a power struggle regarding joint regional planning for a city region, and the parallel quest to secure an extension to the city’s boundaries.

Abstract: For many British cities, the received history of post-war reconstruction, accepted rather uncritically by succeeding generations, suggests a fairly swift and harmonious development and implementation of a plan, driven forward by one or two key individuals such as a city engineer, a main planner and, perhaps, a lord mayor. Such suspiciously tidy versions of post-war history have had high visibility and have been hard to challenge. This paper utilizes the theory of actor networks to reveal new insights into the reconstruction of Plymouth by evaluating the mismatch between the intentions set out in post-war urban reconstruction plans and their actual implementation. Using a rich but neglected archive of evidence in Plymouth, one of Britain’s most badly bombed cities, a chronology of the dynamic interactions of the network(s) involved in devising and realizing the 1943 Plan for Plymouth is reconstructed. The discussion illustrates that, while the formulation of the plan itself, with its radical and ambitious proposals, was the work of a relatively small elite network, its implementation drew in other much larger groups of actors and interests. The interactions and revisions amongst the players in these bigger networks led to significant compromises and, ultimately, there was a mismatch between the original vision and the reality that was delivered.

Abstract: The retreat from bold reconstruction planning in Britain’s blitzed cities is now well established, although there are two notable exceptions: Coventry and Plymouth. While the circumstances in Coventry have been fully researched, the narrative in Plymouth remains untold. The aim of this article is therefore to evaluate the main formal measures required to embark on the comprehensive redevelopment of Plymouth’s heavily blitzed core area and whether, despite Whitehall’s failure to deliver the necessary legal and administrative powers in a timely and co-ordinated manner, the city maintained its faith in bold plans and planners.


Fuller, A.L. and Home, R. (2007) On the planning history of Chelmsford Papers in Land Management no. 9, Anglia Polytechnic University
Has a significant section discussing Minoprio’s plan and its impacts.


Abstract: Jeffrey Diefendorf has shown that during and after the Second World War there were potential conflicts in many European cities between the aim of physical reconstruction and the need to rebuild local and national economies. In London, as elsewhere, these conflicts came to be reflected in the reconstruction plans that were prepared. This paper examines the relationships between planning and industry in London between 1940 and 1955 and analyses the role of large-scale redevelopment areas in the physical and economic reconstruction of London. The issues are explored with special reference to London's industrial East End. The nature of the conflicts over reconstruction in London and the manner in which they were expressed and resolved can inform understanding not only of planning in a major metropolis but also of the broader processes at work in the political and institutional structures of local and national government. The emergence of national concern about London's growth in the interwar period, both in terms of population and employment is sketched, and national policy responses to accelerating metropolitan expansion are outlined. The impact of the Second World War on London's physical and economic structure and the role envisaged for large-scale redevelopment areas in plans for reconstruction are then discussed. The relative weight given to industrial and social objectives in reconstruction areas (termed Comprehensive Development Areas after 1947) is assessed and the problems and opportunities posed by the particular character of London's East End are reviewed. Focus is on planning priorities within the Stepney / Poplar Reconstruction / Comprehensive Development Area, and the significance of political and fiscal considerations in determining policy, particularly from the viewpoint of the planning authority, the London County Council.

Deals in part with the second MARS linear city plan of 1942: a significant Modernist vision rather than a reconstruction plan per se.

*Gives broad context for architecture and planning in 1930s-1940s, mentioning some names associated with replanning; discusses MARS plans particularly.*

*Discusses much about the actual ‘rebuilding’ period – 1954-1972.*

*Detailed thematic and building-by-building study.*

*This book traces how consensus was sought and achieved with regard to the city plans for Bristol, Coventry and Southampton and places them in the wider context of post-war reconstruction. It explores the role of central government, and how its reconstruction policies retreated, in the face of economic constraints, from its initial bold idealism.*

*Abstract: German air-raids during the early days of the Second World War destroyed a number of cities in Britain. At the same time, some contemporaries regarded such destruction as an opportunity not only for the reconstruction of the built environment but also for the creation of a fairer society. The replanning of the blitzed areas became a symbol of the aspiration to build a New Jerusalem. This article examines the fate of radical town planning ideas in the 1940s and early 1950s with particular reference to the rebuilding of heavily bombed cities. It analyses the visions which inspired reconstruction plans, examines their conception and studies the visionaries, both ordinary citizens and the political elite. The process of postwar reconstruction in general has become a much-debated subject in political, economic and social history in recent years, but there has been a serious lack of detailed examination of postwar urban replanning and redevelopment. This article, therefore, also considers how the rebuilding of war-damaged cities should be evaluated in the light of contemporary political, economic and social realities and issues during the period of postwar reconstruction.*

*Abstract: German air-raids during the early days of the Second World War destroyed much of the City of London. Because of its importance as the financial and commercial centre, its reconstruction planning attracted nationwide attention, and the plan of 1947 by consultants Charles Holden and William Holford has been regarded very highly with its drastic planning principles and new techniques. This article presents an inside story of the making of the plans and policies for the reconstruction of the Square Mile, which highlights the importance (and the limit) of the role played by Central Government to force the City Fathers to appoint consultants and take their advice.*

Abstract: This article explores some important political issues and local difficulties facing planners during the 1940s in Portsmouth, a city which suffered considerable bomb damage. It is a local study which deals with some of the general points raised in Nick Tiratsoo's article in this volume, and which emphasises the contextual constraints which operated firmly against, or in modification of, the Portsmouth plan.


Abstract. The reconstruction of bombed cities in Japan after the Second World War has recently attracted much attention and has given rise to important research in English on exceptional cases, such as Tokyo, Osaka and Hiroshima. This research shows that these cities were forced to retreat from the initial idealistic planning for reconstruction owing to pressure from central government, and that local authorities were not able to incorporate the views of ordinary people under the town planning system at that time. This paper examines the cases of eight provincial cities that were designated by the government in the late 1940s as ‘model cities’ of war-damage reconstruction, as they were considered to have made remarkable progress. The planned major reconstruction of the eight cities, which brought about substantial changes to their physical forms, was in most cases characterized by a wide street leading to a new square fronting the principal railway station. However, the reaction of ordinary citizens to the official reconstruction proposals often prevented their full implementation.


First paragraphs: The County of London plan was the officially commissioned and adopted plan for the reconstruction and reordering of London, intended to be put into effect after hostilities had ceased. Its reception at the time of its publication was almost entirely uncritical: indeed some may have found its vision of a new London inspirational. ... Unsurprisingly, however, the Plan drawn up under the leadership of Patrick Abercrombie can be seen as embodying a set of values largely alien to the ordinary Londoner whose life it set out to improve. It denies dialogue and plurality in the face of certainties backed by authority. It can be seen as the product of a highly specific, even narrow perspective, comprehensible both in its social context and in the context of the town planning traditions both of Britain and modern Europe, but highly reductive in the range of its concerns and priorities. This article intends to discuss the proposals of the plan in terms of its implicit value systems and the context of its evolution, and to examine the aftermath when, perhaps inevitably, the plan remained largely unadopted.


pp. 62-72 on reconstruction.


Discussion of an oral history research project.
Abstract: Recently, views have begun to shift on whether the immediate post-war period in Britain really was characterised by a consensus of public opinion in favour of comprehensive redevelopment planning. This paper explores this issue in the context of Coventry, a city that was extensively bombed during World War II, but redeveloped according to Modernist-inspired principles in the post-war years, resulting in an urban landscape celebrating the perceived virtues of speed, efficiency and order. Examining the reconstruction of Coventry’s city centre in the 1940s and 1950s, this paper suggests that the popular consensus in favour of its comprehensive redevelopment was, in fact, more illusory than real. To these ends, the paper brings into dialogue people’s memories of living in Coventry in this era with existing published and unpublished accounts of the city’s redevelopment. This exposes contradictions and conflicts between the planners’ vision of the future city and the appropriation and use of the resulting urban landscape by the city’s inhabitants. The paper accordingly concludes that processes of modernisation provoke constant contradictions that we might develop fuller, richer and more contextual planning histories.

Jones, P.N. (1998) "... a fairer and nobler City" – Lutyens and Abercrombie's plan for the City of Hull 1945', Planning Perspectives vol. 13 no. 3 pp. 301-316.
Abstract: The plan produced by Lutyens and Abercrombie in 1944 for the city of Kingston upon Hull is perhaps the least known of a celebrated series of wartime plans for the reconstruction of provincial cities, such as Plymouth and Coventry, despite the contemporary fame of its authors. The paper seeks to remedy this deficiency. It outlines the Plan's key proposals, describes their formative influences and looks at their relationship to developments in planning during that period. The paper analyses the Plan from the perspectives of both general planning principles and those aspects which were very specific to Hull itself. It identifies a number of imaginative proposals, particularly in the fields of integrated traffic and neighbourhood planning, and the remodelling of the city centre. The paper concludes that the Hull Plan, whilst containing features which would not find acceptance now, deserves wider recognition.


Abstract: The production of space in postwar UK towns, whether bomb damaged or not, was characterised by a series of authoritative planning reports, vividly illustrated by perspective drawings and maps. In this paper aspects of the imagery and production of these documents are discussed. They depict strikingly modernist urban landscapes, albeit sometimes clothed in familiar architectural style or materials. They are a symbol of control, particularly in the rise of the new, modernist, paradigm in planning thought. They present sanitised visions of streets, public spaces, and buildings in which the users
are little represented. However, the majority of these documents, although influential, were never carried out in this drastic fashion. These images thus represent a microcosm of changing attitudes in architecture, planning, and urban design at a key point in time; and strong links can be drawn to current perspectives on the representation and production of urban space.

Abstract: There are well-known reconstruction plans for various UK cities produced during and after the Second World War, but little attention has been paid to those towns suffering little damage, or whose plans were not drawn up by the usual eminent consultants. This paper explores the process of preparing such a plan for Wolverhampton, in the English West Midlands. Here, a 'technocentric' plan is evident, typical of the 1940s reconstruction plans, but one with roots stretching back a decade into the middle 1930s; one whose key impetus was the Borough Surveyor, but which was prepared for a major programme of public involvement and consultation. Although this plan was not carried out in this form, it set the agenda for the next forty years of development in planning thought and in changing urban form. It was pivotal in the history of the town and its restructuring from the middle of the twentieth century.

Abstract: During and immediately after World War II, several hundred reconstruction plans were drawn up for the majority of UK towns and cities. These included both those suffering bomb damage, and those relatively or completely unscathed. At the same time, the bomb damage had given substantial impetus to the concept of urban conservation. The ‘listing’ of buildings of special architectural or historic interest was begun. However, the reconstruction plans have much to say – both explicitly and implicitly – about conservation on a broader scale. Many of the plans suggested comprehensive clearance and redevelopment, creating a tabula rasa even if the bomb damage had not, albeit during a period of 30-50 years. Few were sensitive to the context of areas and groups of buildings. Nevertheless, there is clear evidence in some of the plans for the emergence of a broader concept of conservation, two decades before Duncan Sandys’ Civic Amenities Act permitted the designation of ‘conservation areas’. This paper reassesses the common interpretation of these plans as largely modernist in outlook.


Larkham, P.J. (2004) The imagery of the UK post-war reconstruction plans Working Paper 88, School of Planning and Housing, University of Central England
Considers the nature and production of images, and the plans as a form of communication.

Examines the novel ‘greens’ developed by Reilly during preparation of the Birkenhead
plan, and applied in the Black Country boroughs of Bilston and Dudley; but which were compromised by decisions by the Ministry of Health, by Reilly’s death, and by the job moves of their major promoter, the Town Clerk.

Larkham, P.J. (2004) *Agents of change in the post-war reconstruction: the interaction of architects, planners, politicians and the public*. Working Paper 91, School of Planning and Housing, University of Central England


Abstract: This paper discusses the rise of a new building use and form, the ‘civic centre’, spurred by the growing urban administrative requirements of the Victorian and Edwardian periods. Detailed evidence from the large number of post-Second World War reconstruction plans is used to review the substantial impact of these new plan units on the existing and proposed urban fabric. These mono-use precincts were a significant stage in reducing the fine grain land-use patterns of UK city centres. However, the vast majority were not built in the form or at the time proposed, in some cases owing to a failure of design communication.


Abstract: Cities are constantly changing, either in a slow, gradualist manner, or through catastrophe such as war. This paper examines the mechanisms for reconstructing British towns after the bombing of the Second World War. The emerging national planning system, and examples of individual local responses, are discussed. This example of post-catastrophe reconstruction planning proved to be a slow and difficult process, with many disagreements between the national and local planners. It does not easily conform to standard models of post-disaster planning.


Abstract: Thomas Sharp was a planner of skill and sensitivity to context, very active in replanning smaller historic towns and cities after the Second World War. His 1949 plan for Chichester was well received locally and nationally, but led to fierce debates and conflict with the West Sussex County Council, newly elevated to the status of Planning Authority, who wished to widen the main streets that Sharp felt gave the town its Georgian character. The Ministry of Transport supported the imposition of standard carriageway and pavement widths. The Ministry of Town and Country Planning temporised, and delayed approval of the Development Plan. By the 1960s Sharp’s report seemed to have been forgotten, and a new culture of conservation radically changed planning policy. Perhaps Sharp’s real legacy here was in delaying damaging proposals, and promoting a more holistic approach to ‘townscape’.

Abstract: This paper reviews an unusual and subtle form of place promotion, that contained in the series of British post-war reconstruction plans produced up to c. 1952. These were not explicitly designed as place-promotional literature, and we suggest that they should be seen as subversive promotion of towns and cities, as well as vehicles for civic boosterism. Evidence of this is discussed with respect to the production of these plans, for example in the commissioning of eminent and expensive consultants; in the texts of plans; and in the often striking and colourful imagery used.


Abstract: The majority of studies of British post-war reconstruction planning have focused on the better-known plans for larger towns and cities, yet many much smaller places were also represented in the tremendous outpouring of plans in the period c. 1951-1952. This paper discusses the context of the smaller town replanning, using four very different unbombed towns and plans as exemplars (Bewdley, Durham, Todmorden and Warwick). Uninformative and incomplete records still preclude explicit discussion of why consultants were chosen in each of these cases, and indeed small towns seem unusually prone to engage expensive consultants. Key common
themes in the plans included road provision and housing conditions; indeed the concerns of these small-town plans are little different from those of larger, and badly-bombed, places – perhaps because consultants were used. However the removal of planning powers from all of these authorities under the 1947 Act means that implementation of expensive plans was delayed and substantially amended: perhaps the bandwagon of replanning was not worth the expense?


Abstract: The aim of this research project is to write a history of the plans drawn up for Sheffield’s city centre from the 1930s to the 1950s, specifically, the plans adopted by the City Council in 1939, 1945 and 1957. These three plans form a set, each evolving out of the other. The 1957 plan was particularly important as it formed the basis for much of the subsequent development in Sheffield’s Central Area. The preparation of these plans also coincided with the introduction of Government policies that significantly changed planning practice in relation to built-up areas, and this thesis charts the way these historical developments were played out at a local level. My contention is that the authors of these schemes did not think spatially, that is: they did not fully consider their proposals in three dimensions; they failed to imagine what it would be like for a person to be in and to move through the streets of the completed scheme. A number of factors probably contributed to this, including the type of training received by Sheffield’s planners, and the introduction of legislation permitting the use of zoning schemes for built-up areas. Another important factor was the emergence of new traffic engineering practices, promoted by the Ministry of Transport from 1930 onwards. The desire to create a new road network that would allow the free flow of traffic took priority over spatial concerns. The result was that the replanned city was designed to accommodate motor vehicles and not people. Subsequently many came to regard the reconstructed city as inhumane and uninviting. This was a pattern repeated in many British cities in the post-war period.


Lilley, K.D. (2003) ‘On display: planning exhibitions as civic propaganda or public consultation?’, Planning History vol. 25 no. 3 pp. 3-8


Malpass, P. (2003) ‘Wartime planning for post-war housing in Britain: the Whitehall debate,
Abstract: The starting point for this article is the observation that planning for post-war housing policy has been a neglected area of study, especially in comparison with the attention given to housing during the First World War. Drawing on research in the official files, the article shows that planning for housing after the war began as early as 1941, and that a detailed and ambitious policy was in place well before the end of the war. Commitment to a very large housing programme was underpinned by the intention to use the construction industry as a way of absorbing labour and pursuing full employment. The main questions addressed by officials and ministers concerned the number of houses to be built and the agencies employed to build them ... It is concluded that in terms of the quantity and quality of houses to be built the housing policy of the coalition government was more radical and ambitious than is generally recognized. But it was highly conservative in terms of its stance on systematic reform.


Abstract: During the Second World War, the question of the reconstruction and replanning of London generated a lively and informed debate which ranks as one of the most influential episodes in the history of urban and regional planning. Despite wartime disturbance and restrictions, three independent bodies published plans for London and its region in 1942 and 1943. These plans were to be overshadowed by the two official plans for the County of London and for Greater London which were published between 1943 and 1945. However, the preparation of the independent plans, and the debates which they engendered, help to set London planning policy in a broad perspective. They also suggest that planning options in the capital and its region were more constrained than myth would suggest.


Examines ‘reconstruction’ plans in both towns, by consultants Minoprio and Spencely, and Max Lock; and their relationship to the actions of local agents, local politics and budgetary concerns; and reasons why they were not implemented in the post-war period.

Explores philosophy and ideology in the concepts and languages of replanning, with emphasis on the concept of 'community' and the representation of history.


Abstract: Reconstruction planning in the United Kingdom in the 1940s has been subject to significant scholarly attention in recent years. Many towns and cities were caught up in a wider enthusiasm for town planning. The approach proposed was usually radical, involving a major restructuring of urban fabric to achieve modern functionality. This paper addresses the reconstruction planning of historic cities and is based on a survey of 12 such plans. It discusses how planners sought to reconcile a belief in modern comprehensive planning and the perceived necessity to create ‘modern places’ with their appreciation of the existing qualities of historic cities. Finally, the paper briefly considers such concepts as character and townscape that have had enduring significance.


Abstract: During the 1940s a series of remarkable and radical planning documents, generally now collectively referred to as ‘reconstruction plans’, were produced for many British cities. Universally, these sought to introduce a highly interventionist, comprehensive planning, often with strong elements of ‘clean sweep’ reconstruction. The author considers two such plans, for the historic cities of Durham and Warwick. He examines how the authors of these plans sought to reconcile the desire to achieve functional modern places with historic character, in a period of growing consciousness of the historic qualities of place. The author concludes by briefly considering the legacy of these plans of ideas about planning in historic towns and cities.


Examination of changing approaches to historic city planning from 1940s to 1960s using examples of Bath and York, beginning with their reconstruction plans.


Explores the controversy in Birkenhead surrounding the alternative proposals for the Woodside estate by Reilly (the “‘greens’ layout”) and the Borough Engineer, B. Robinson.


Abstract: The plans of two Warwickshire towns are analysed in order to assess the effectiveness
of planning policies for conservation of their townscapes in the first half of the twentieth century. Stratford-upon-Avon and Warwick were both the subject of commissioned planning reports by Patrick Abercrombie in the 1920s and the 1940s respectively. The two reports provide a measure of the changing attitudes to planning in historic towns. Half of this paper focuses on the Abercrombie and Nickson report of 1949.


Abstract: Fifty years after the process began, many are critical about the way that blitzed British cities were rebuilt. The problem, it is alleged, was 'the planners'. They acted like dictators, and simply imposed their 'New Jerusalemist' ideas regardless of public opinion and national priority. Local populations were therefore betrayed on the altar of a profession's half-baked utopianism. This article takes issue with such an interpretation, and shows why it is almost completely misconceived. Most planners were mild reformers, who wanted to work as far as possible in harmony with the citizens they served. However, planners were only one set of participants in a complex equation. Other forces shaped much of the reconstruction process. Most importantly, what occurred cannot be understood without reference to national government policy and the largely conservative aspirations of ordinary people.


Abstract: This paper examines aspects of post-war planning in an English 'tourist-historic' city centre, Worcester, and in particular the changing attitudes towards conservation of the built fabric. This is shown changing from the first, idealistic, post-war plan which proposed much comprehensive redevelopment, to the local planning authority's
treatment of individual development proposals into the late 1980s, for which much evidence exists in planning application files. The rate and nature of urban landscape change are discussed, and implications for conservation planning are drawn.


An overview of Sharp’s career and contributions: his reconstruction plans are thus set in the broader context of British planning history.


*Abstract:* Whilst Thomas Sharp’s intellectual rope and a pioneer in the history of town planning thought is difficult to dispute, the physical legacy of Sharp’s work as a planner is more problematic. This is partly because Sharp’s plans for specific plans were only partially implemented in the febrile context of British reconstruction planning in the 1940s, but it also reflects the fact that although aspects of design were set out, the physical implementation of Sharp’s plans was largely left to others. Nevertheless, the issue of Sharp’s physical legacy opens up questions about what might be expected from Sharp’s planning practice, as well as judgements about the durability of those aspects of Sharp’s plans that were implemented. In this paper, we explore issues relating to Sharp’s physical legacy through a case study of the past, present and future of post-war development in Exeter, focusing especially on the Princesshay area, often cited as one of the most coherent expressions of Sharp’s plan.


*A large-format reproduction of the Ordnance Survey-based damage maps, with a significant introduction by Woolven. A very important source, but of very limited availability owing to copyright restrictions.*


*Chapter 8 discusses the preparation, contents and reception of the Forshaw and Aercrombie plan for the County of London.*

For comparison, with other catastrophe:


*Abstract:* Comparing the post-war reconstruction of bombed German cities and the ongoing rebuilding of New Orleans can provide a useful basis for evaluating what has happened in the Crescent City since Katrina. *This article concentrates on reconstruction*
financing, design ideas, and the planning process. The experience of German reconstruction suggests that expectations in New Orleans for immediate, unrestricted financial help from the Federal government and for constructing a dramatically new city were misplaced. External financing requires time to arrive. Planners after the war and today have drawn upon ideas common throughout the twentieth century. Aided by the Internet and the input of planners and architects from across the United States, the planning process in New Orleans has been comparatively rapid and open. Helped by the volunteer labour and charity, actual rebuilding has been as much ad hoc as planned.
7.2.1 Recent contextual works: the social, cultural, economic and political background to reconstruction


Hewison, R. (1995) *Culture and consensus: England, art and politics since 1945*, Methuen, London. *Chapters 2 and 3 deal with art, politics and issues such as national identity and cultural coherence from 1945 into the early 1950s.*


8. Biographical works and information on the planners

Biographies tend to be of the better-known planners, eg those featured in the Dictionary of National Biography: this is thus a very selective and unrepresentative listing.

Abercrombie, Professor Sir Leslie Patrick, 1879-1957
MA DLitt FRIBA FILA; TPI President 1925-6

on his early ideas


Adshead, Professor Stanley Davenport, 1868-1946
MA Hon MArch FRIBA; TPI President 1918-19

Ramsey, S.C. (1959) ‘Stanley Davenport Adshead (1868-1946)’, in Wickham Legg, L.G. and


**Allen, Joseph Stanley**

*BArch, ARIBA, TPI President 1959-60*

Head of the Leeds School of Architecture and Planning; also Principal of the Leeds College of Art from 9/44. Appointed as the first Professor of Planning, University of Durham, 1945; set up first degree course in planning at the University’s “Newcastle division”, ie King’s College, Newcastle upon Tyne, later the University of Newcastle upon Tyne.

**Aslan, Naim, 1910-1988**


**Cullen, (Thomas) Gordon, 1914-1994**

*CBE, hon. FRIBA, hon. LLD, hon. LittD, hon. Dr Ing*

*Who was who 1991-1995* p. 124

**Davidge, William Robert, 1879-1961**

*FRIBA FRICS AMICE PPTPI*

Anon. (1962) Obituary, *Journal of the Town Planning Institute* vol. XLVIII no. 2 p. 52

**Forshaw, John Henry, 1895-1973**

*MC BArch MA FRIBA AMTPI FILA*

LCC Architect from 6/41.

**Gibson, Donald**

*MA ARIBA AMTPI*

see also *Architects’ Journal* 20/1/1955; *Coventry Evening Telegraph* 13/1/1972

**Harrison, Austen St Barbe**


**Holden, Charles Henry, ?-1960**

_LittD FRIBA MTPI_

By 1948 had been in architectural partnership as Adams, Holden and Pearson since at least 1925.

**Holford, Professor Lord William Graham, 1907-1975**

_BArch MA DCL Hon LLD ARA PPRIBA PPILA; TPI President 1953-4_


**Hubbard, Robert Pearce Steel, 1910-1965**

Letter from Abercrombie to *The Times*, 14/9/65.

**Jackson, Herbert, 1909-1989**


**Lloyd, T. (Thomas) Alwyn, 1881-1960**

_OBE Hon LLD FRIBA FILA FSA; TPI President 1933-4_


**Lock, Max, 1909-1988**

obituary, *Journal of the Royal Institute of British Architects*, vol. 95 no. 7, 1988, p. 92


**Lutyens, Sir Edwin, 1864-1944**

*KCIE OM FRIBA PRA Hon LLD Hon DCL*

anon. (1944) obituary, *Estates Gazette* 8/1/44, p. 37


**Manzoni, Sir Herbert J.**

*CBE MICE*

some biographical information in Biggs, C.H. (ed.) (1949) *Contractors’ Record and Municipal Engineering* (publication accompanying the IME Annual Conference, pp. 34-35)

A transcript of A.R. Sutcliffe’s interview with Manzoni (for the Hisatoty of Birmingham project) is in *Transcripts of interviews with prominent Birmingham people 1967-9*, Birmingham Reference Library, Local Studies, LF71.

**Matthew, Sir Robert**

His role in the Clyde Valley Plan (rather to the detriment of Abercrombie), and in replanning post-war London especially housing and the South Bank, are explored in Glendinning, M. (2008) *Modern architect: the life and times of Robert Matthew* RIBA Publishing, London) Section II.

**Mattocks, Robert Henry**

*TPI President 1941-42*

Regional Planning Officer, Leeds, in 1943. Academic planner at King’s College, Newcastle upon Tyne; died c. 1948 while working on Accrington plan.

**Minoprio, Charles Anthony, 1900-1988**

*BArch MA FRIBA AMTPI*

In practice with Hugh Spencely from 1928. Minoprio appointed to Crawley New Town after Sharp’s resignation; went on to Cwmbran New Town.


Nicholas, Rowland  
*CBE BSc MInstCE MTPI*  
City Engineer, Sheffield, pre-war; City Surveyor and Engineer, Manchester

Nickson, Richard  
*MA FRIBA*  
In private practice based on the Wirral: *The Builder* CLX no. 5128, 16/5/41, p. 472; went into partnership with Abercrombie in July 1945, with offices in Welbeck Street W1 (*The Builder* CLXIX no. 5347, 27/7/45, p. 62).

Reilly, Professor Sir Charles Herbert, 1874-1948  
*OBE MA DLitt FRIBA MTPI*  
Obituary, *The Builder* CLXXIV no. 5477, 6/2/58, p. 161  

especially Chapter 10: ‘The Reilly Plan’

Liverpool University Press, Liverpool. *Exhibition catalogue; contains useful information on those architect/planners later involved in reconstruction trained at Liverpool during this period.*

Sharp, Thomas Wilfrid, 1901-1978  
*CBE MA DLitt MTPI FRIBA PPILA; TPI President 1945-6*  


Perspectives vol. 23 no. 4 pp. 523-533. An overview of Sharp's career and contributions: his reconstruction plans are thus set in the broader context of British planning history.

See also the other two papers on Sharp by Larkham, and While and Tait, in Planning Perspectives vol. 24 no. 1 (2009) (details in section 7.1).

Shepheard, Sir Peter Faulkner, 1913-2002
PPRIBA PPLI

Trained at Liverpool, First 1936. Godson of Abercrombie. Worked with Abercrombie of Greater London Plan; drew some perspectives for this and other plans.


Spencely, Hugh Greville C., 1900-1983
BArch FRIBA AMTPI

9. Non-UK reconstruction plans and related publications (including some post-First World War)

This is a very selective list biased by the availability of material in the UK and our own lack of knowledge of languages other than English! The list is arranged alphabetically by author (where known) or place - town or country. Note the bibliography of French reconstruction (broadly defined): Bastide, C. and Brunet, G. (1993) Reconstruction: orientation bibliographique Centre de Documentation sur l’Urbanisme, Paris

(Alsace) Techniques et Architecture (c. 1949) Account of work of reconstruction in Départements of Bas-Rhin and Haut-Rhin, Techniques et Architecture (9th year) no. 3-4 pp. 32-72.

(Amiens) Oeuvres et Maîtres d'Oeuvre (1949) Reconstruction at Amiens, Oeuvres et Maîtres d'Oeuvre no. 13, pp. 3-54.


(Australia) Smith, Harold H. (1944) Planning the community: a framework for preplanned reconstruction, Caslon House, Sydney, 64pp. Stresses "town units".


Bierut, Boleslaw (1951) The six-year plan for the reconstruction of Warsaw: graphical presentation diagrams, plans and perspectives worked out on the basis of materials and projects of the Town Planning Office of Warsaw, Warsaw, 367pp. Bierut was then President of Poland; the plan was actually prepared by Stanislaw Jankowski.

Blaum, Kurt (gen. ed.) Wiederaufbau zerstörter städte [Rebuilding destroyed towns, series of volumes], Cobet, Frankfurt-am-Main.


(Brest) (1983) Premier colloque international des villes reconstruites (conference proceedings) Ville de Brest


(Canada) *Journal of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada* 9/42, special issue of 17 contributions on general or special aspects of architectural or planning reconstruction.


Abstract: From 1940 to 1942 Malta sustained severe bombing and extensive damage. The paper analyses the plans for reconstruction that were made by the appointed consultants from 1943, and the way they and others implemented them. The experience of the consultants, Harrison and Hubbard, is traced, and it is concluded that they quickly developed sensitivity to the Maltese context. It is found that where Harrison and Hubbard carried out their own proposals generally positive outcomes resulted, but that when other designers worked at implementation their decisions often undermined the original design intentions. The difficulty of conveying the ‘knowing’ of strategies by their authors to those who may take them on later is identified as a continuing challenge for urban design today.


Abstract: The industrial parts of the lower Seine valley experienced serious destruction at every stage of World War II. One-tenth of all the dwellings destroyed during the war had been located in Seine-Inférieure, with inner districts of Rouen and Le Havre and many smaller towns being reduced to ruins. Removal of mines and debris was followed by the installation of temporary accommodation, some of which still survives. The master plan for the reconstruction of Rouen, devised by Jacques Gréber and mediated by the wishes
of the city's businessmen, combined a respect for traditional structures around the
cathedral on the right bank of the Seine with striking modernism on the left bank.
Auguste Perret's plan for Le Havre produced a thoroughly modern townscape of wide
streets and apartment blocks, which evoked the main outline of the previous street plan.
Almost half a century following their reconstruction, the inner districts of Rouen and Le
Havre serve as powerful lieux de mémoire in the history of World War II and in the
recovery and modernization of Europe.

Perspectives vol. 20 no. 1 pp. 1-33.
Abstract: During World War I the towns and cities of northern France experienced widespread
devastation, with some being literally erased from the landscape. Reconstruction during
the decade and a half after the Armistice offered potential for experimenting with
modernist ideas in architecture and planning, as well as following the traditions of
régionalisme. Drawing on a selection of examples, this article explores the impact of
destruction, reinvention of urban tradition, injection of international ideas and styles,
and installation of garden suburbs. As the largest urban place to suffer extreme loss,
particular attention is directed to the rebuilding of Reims. Over the last decade, the
taken-for-granted townscape of reconstruction have received scholarly investigation
and have been recognized as heritage features that may help sustain local strategies for
economic survival.

Extracts from a lecture, with street plans illustrating reconstruction proposals.

Cradduck, K.S. (1946) 'The reconstruction of Bizerte' (Tunisia), Journal of the Town Planning
Institute Jan-Feb pp. 71-74

Université de Paris XII.

Merhout, B. Stross, E. Sternberk, W. Lawther; foreword by Abercrombie. Account of
Nazi destruction of the settlement and plans for its proposed reconstruction as a model
garden village.

Detti, E. (1946) 'French reconstruction plans' [for Valenciennes and Vitry le Français], La Nuova

Diefendorf, J.M. (1985) 'Konstanty Gutschow and the reconstruction of Hamburg', Central
European History vol. 17.

Wagner and the rebuilding of Germany', in Pfanner, H. (ed.) Kulturelle
Wechselbeziehungen im Exil – Exile across cultures, Bonn.

Diefendorf, J.M. (1986) 'Reconstruction and building law in post-war Germany', Planning
Perspectives vol. 1 pp. 107-129.
Abstract: In the area of urban building and planning law, there was great continuity between the years before and after 1945. The men responsible for the 1931 and 1945 drafts of comprehensive building and planning laws continued to promote such laws after the war, though with adjustments for the condition of the ruined cities. Their efforts led to the passage of reconstruction laws in all of the German states except Bavaria. Though different in detail, these laws all dealt, among other things, with the structure of planning, property consolidations and expropriation with and without appropriate compensation. However, the attempt to pass a national building law foundered, as it had in the state of Bavaria, on the opposition of property owners to provisions for expropriation, jurisdictional conflicts between town, state, and federal authorities, and a general resistance to any kind of strong planning authority - a sentiment partly derived from the experience of Nazi authoritarianism. In the early 1950s, decisions by the federal courts on cases concerning building prohibitions and expropriations undermined existing state reconstruction laws. Consequently, only a limited housing law and a land procurement law for housing were passed by the Bundestag.


Extended report on 1987 conference, papers from which are given in Diefendorf, ed., 1990.


Abstract: One-fourth of Vienna's buildings suffered damage during World War II, and postwar officials, planners, and architects initially viewed reconstruction as an opportunity to introduce major reforms, such as functional zoning, density reduction and new traffic patterns. During the first two postwar decades, Vienna's planning was led by Franz Schuster, Karl Heinrich Brunner and Roland Rainer, all of whom pursued cautious, pragmatic and rather technical approaches to planning, and all of whom focused more on functional rather than aesthetic issues. Their work failed to arouse much enthusiasm. Whereas the city had been a pioneer in planning and architecture at the turn of the
century, after 1945 it settled for being a pleasant, functional metropolis characterized by the structures of a departed age.


Docker, Richard *et al.* (1950) *Der Neuaufbau zerstörender Stadtgebiete [The reconstruction of blitzed urban areas]*, Stuttgart.


(France) *Urbanisme* (1941) no. 71 (January-May): theme issue on the reconstruction of the towns of the Val-de-Loire.


(France) Alaurent, J. (1951) 'Reconstruction and planning in France', *Journal of the Town Planning Institute* (June) pp. 180-188.

(France) (1989) *Le nouvel Amiens* Pierre Mardaga Editeur, Brussells


(France: Calvados) *La Construction Moderne* (1950) Reconstruction in Calvados, *La Construction Moderne* (February) pp. 51-64. *Note: the RIBA Library accessions list adds "and subsequent issue".*


(France) Jean, V. (1943) *La reconstruction des villes et des immeubles sinistrés après la guerre de 1940* Bishop, Paris

(France) *South African Architectural Record* (1950) ‘Reconstruction in France after the first world war’, *South African Architectural Record* (May) pp. 97-111. *Note: the RIBA Library accessions list adds "(i.e. after 1945)".*


(France) A series of town- or region-specific features is in *Urbanisme* c. 1943-1948

(Frankfurt-am-Main) *Die Neue Stadt* (1950) Competition for re-planning the old city in Frankfurt-am-Main, *Die Neue Stadt* no. 8 pp. 301-312.


(Germany) *Informationen moderner Stadtgeschichte*, Deutsches Institut für Urbanistik, Berlin. *Twice-yearly bulletin containing (amongst other notices) comments on reconstruction research in German universities.*

(Germany) Bund Deutscher Architekten (1960) *Planen und bauen im neuen Deutschland*, Westdeutscher verlag, Köln , 648pp. *Ambitious survey of the planning and (particularly)
building achievements of post-West Germany; captions also in English and French.


(Groningen) Bouw (1949) Reconstruction plan for Groningen, Bouw (April 23), pp. 266-278. Analysis of proposals by C. Poudroyen.


Henvauz, E. (1967) 'H. van de Velde dans l'oeuvre de la reconstruction de la Belgique (1940-1943)', Cahiers Henri van de Velde no. 8.


(Italy) Nervi, P.L. (1945) 'Le basi della ricostruzione', La Ricerca Scientifica e la Ricostruzione, no. 4.

(Italy) (1948) Distruzioni e ricostruzioni in Italia, Ministerio dei Lavori Pubblici, Rome. Record of damage; activities of the Ministry of Public Works.


Reconstruction of Elblag, which had remained a public part until 1990. Reconstructions use old foundations but "a rather frenetic post-modern style".


Ligne, Jean de (1945) *La reconstruction de Tournai: le plan d'amenagement et ses servitudes urbanistiques*, Brussels.


Part 1 of the book reviews reconstruction in about 100 war-damaged cities across Europe. Good international comparisons; Italian text; many contemporary illustrations.

Abstract: *The development of the south bank of the central waterfront area of Rotterdam may be seen as the culmination of a process of reconstruction and redevelopment in the city that has been taking place over a considerable period, in particular since the destruction of a large part of the city's central area in the Second World War ... [only a part of the paper focuses on the immediate post-war reconstruction].*


Olmo, Carlo (ed.) (1993) 'The reconstruction in Europe after World War II', theme issue of *Rassegna* Year XV, 54/2 (June). *Includes material on London, Milan, Rotterdam, France, Germany, USSR.*

Olmo, Carlo (1993) 'Themes and realities of the reconstruction', in Olmo, Carlo (ed.) (1993) 'The reconstruction in Europe after World War II', theme issue of *Rassegna* Year XV, 54/2 (June). *Begins general but tends to focus on Italian examples.*


(Poland) *New Poland* vol. 3/4 no. 9 (1948): special reconstruction issue.


Abstract: By exploring the reconstruction of the city of Sevastopol after the Second World War and the memorialisation that accompanied this process, the article seeks to examine the identities embedded into this process, particularly the relationship between local and Soviet identities.


Rappaport, P. (1945) *Der Wiederaufbau der deutschen Städte*, Webels, Essen-Steele, 40pp. *Key early German publication setting out basic approach to reconstruction.*


(Rotterdam) (c. 1946) *Replanning the city of Rotterdam*, Town Planning Office, Rotterdam, 16pp.


(Saar) (1947) *Urbanisme en Sarre*, Urbanistes de la Sarre, Sarrebruck, 100pp. *Reconstruction item showing strong evidence of Modernist ideas; French text.*

Abstract: In 1944 Turin's city officials announced a competition for a new General Plan that began a long debate between architects and planners. Prior to and following the competition, intense political and professional polemics emerged: among others, it involved Giorgio Rigotti, a locally renowned planner, and Giovanni Astengo, a key protagonist in Italian post-war town planning. Sharing a common cultural and professional background, Astengo and Rigotti (the author of the plan subsequently adopted by the city) seemed only to differ in their political affiliations and ideological beliefs. Specifically, the difference between the two positions was the degree to which each emphasized the question of implementation. In fact, the polemics that preceded the adoption of the plan (1956-59) may be considered emblematic of one of the most contentious issues in planning: the problematic relationship between theory and practice.


Abstract: It is striking to see how little attention has been paid to Belgian reconstruction after the first world war. The country had succeeded in recovering from its enormous destruction in less than ten years, but the effort was disparaged by the authors of the period as, ‘a mere identical reconstruction’. The modernist view, which had taken over the professional magazines by the mid-1920s, considered the venture as ‘a lost opportunity to create the city anew’. This interpretation has survived until today. It does not take into consideration what was really intended by the historicist image of the new cityscape. Nor does it reveal the intensive efforts to introduce a comprehensive development plan. In the long-term development of Belgian planning however, these discussions have been crucial. The artistic perfection of the urban scenery which characterizes Belgian reconstruction, marks the end of an era, whereas the norms and regulations intended to lay down a more efficient and socially acceptable environment, appear as the beginning of the new scientific approach to urban planning.


(Spain) journal Reconstrucción was published in Madrid following the Spanish Civil War

(Stuttgart) Die Neue Stadt (1949) Reconstruction plan at Stuttgart, Die Neue Stadt (February) pp. 50-72.


and Japan, 1945-1955: dreams, plans and realities, University of Luton Press, Luton.

Chapters on Japan include a brief national overview and case studies of Tokyo, Osaka and Maebishi. An important work as publications in English on Japanese reconstruction are rare.


(Toulon) Suquet-Bonnaud, A. (1951) Reconstruction at Toulon, La Construction Moderne (August) pp. 293-298. Note: the RIBA Library acquisition list adds "and subsequent issue".

(Turkey) Arkitekt (1949) Reconstruction plan for the town of Kirsehir, Arkitekt no. 7-10 pp. 174-177.

Umlauf, J. (1953) Deutsches Schrifttum zur Stadtplanung. Nachweis bis Anfang 1950, Werner, Dusseldorf, 152pp. German directory of (largely) German plans from the 19th century onwards, including many early German reconstruction plans.


(Victoria, Australia) (c. 1945) Let's plan, Town and Country Planning Association of Victoria, Melbourne.


(Warsaw) Épités Épitészeti (1950) Reconstruction work in Warsaw, *Épités Épitészeti* no. 3 pp. 147-159.

