

Call for contributions

*Cahiers thématiques* n° 9

### **Landscape Architecture, Spatial Planning and Regeneration**

The Laboratory of the National School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, Lille, France (LACTH / Laboratory of Architecture: Design, Spatial Planning, Land (use) and History) annually publishes the *Cahiers thématiques*. The ninth edition, due to be published in September 2009, will reflect the introduction of a Landscape Architecture *DPLG* (state-recognised French post-graduate degree) in the school in 2005 as well as the arrival of new researchers to the laboratory, which now focuses on the two cross-disciplines of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. The main theme of *Cahiers thématiques* n° 9 fits in with the work already conducted by the LACTH and the ENSAPL, and with the prior publication of *Cahiers thématiques* n°6: « *L'espace de la grande échelle / Space at a Large Scale* » (2006).<sup>1</sup> The upcoming edition will explore the issues related to landscape architecture and, in particular, the relations developed between this discipline and its fields of operation and the challenges linked to land regeneration.

This international call for contributions addresses researchers and doctoral students from a range of disciplines (architecture, landscape architecture, planning, art, ethnology, sociology, design, etc.). We have identified three approaches: a theoretical and historical approach, case studies, and contemporary thinking on innovative methods by all the stakeholders. The texts will be published in French or in English, in accordance with the author's chosen language (only the abstracts will be translated).

We would like to explore the issues pertaining to landscape architecture and design as applied to land use and regeneration as this provides an experiential laboratory and a testing ground for certain concepts: extending scales, attitudes and challenges, extending 'natural' monuments to sites with an industrial tradition located in new areas corresponding to mining resources and transport at international and cross-border level, broadening the subject matter to include a redefinition of the cultural landscape, and extending attitudes of protection to the creation and conversion of "lifestyles," prompted by the impossibility of living on destroyed sites (the issue of identities).

How does a landscape architecture and spatial planning project square with a regeneration process today? What contribution do their similarities and differences make in terms of project and reflection? How should the terms "spatial planning" and "landscape", "regeneration" and "landscape architecture or design" be understood in combination? What can we learn from the history of their relations in industrialised countries since the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War, and what can this teach us today with respect to the changes in our understanding of landscape both at symbolic and environmental level in order to develop regeneration schemes both now and in the future? Which players and methods are involved? Which concepts can help us to define concrete actions adapted to the changes in cultural, economic and political values? Here, we are

thinking, for example, of the *Zwischenstadt* concept, defined by Thomas Sieverts in his book “Cities without cities.” In the present European climate, as various projects look at the European landscape as a cultural or even an identifying value, how are cross-border regeneration schemes developed and constructed, both intellectually and concretely?

Does a landscape architecture approach provide us with other methods and references to help us understand spatial planning issues in cases of regeneration schemes, in terms of rhythms, movements, temporalities and complexity?

Regeneration and development: here, a site has *already* been transformed<sup>ii</sup>, and there has been some kind of upheaval. This may be economic, social, aesthetic, formal or political in nature, a physical regeneration or a form of protection with specific regulations and limitations to stop changes. It could also be a lifestyle development project. Regeneration or development may be considered local once they impact on spatial planning.

Land (use) and Spatial Planning (*territoire*): this relates to scale as much as to the public domain, linked to a local, territorial, regional or national body, as well as appropriation and various social and spatial practices.<sup>iii</sup>

Landscape: can be understood in several ways depending on the different disciplines.<sup>iv</sup> We understand it in relation to a number of perspectives and without attachment to the past.

Project or scheme: is understood as an intentional transformation of space, an intellectual engagement and reflection for the common good, and as part of a political process.

Proposals may encompass one of three areas:

### **1) A critical and historical approach to the links between landscape, spatial planning issues and development schemes**

Our aim is to bring together considerations on the history of spatial planning, including the question of landscape in regeneration schemes and the history of landscape schemes with respect to spatial issues again in cases of regeneration projects. The historical analysis may touch on cultural influences (between disciplines and between countries<sup>v</sup>), theoretical, practical, methodological and aesthetic references, and also the teaching of the various disciplines since the 1970s and its role in the development of and communication about the profession, theoretical questions concerning the difference (or differences) between spatial planning and landscape design, and the challenges faced by landscape architects with respect to landscape projects (in terms of scale and content). How do we move from spatial planning to landscape design and vice versa? Can a landscape design project physically blend in with the scale of an environment, without losing the difference in scale which may extend and vitalize its potential horizons?

### **2) Critical analysis of landscape projects in the framework of redevelopment linked to spatial planning**

Enough time has now lapsed for us to be able to explore the landscape projects which began in the middle of the 1950s and to examine them with respect to our present and our future both in terms of programmes and potential action.<sup>vi</sup> What are the concrete effects of the relationship between landscape architecture and spatial planning in a regeneration scheme? Concerning the landscape as a factor and tool in the projectual process of creation and spatial planning, what are the successes and the avatars of the programmes deployed in regeneration schemes? Given the new tourist and environmental challenges, and industrial or commercial crises (ports), what becomes of coastal and mountain resort developments? What about the lifestyle conversion schemes developed in the 1990s? How were recommendations followed with regard to the different scales? What is the impact of crisis situations on landscaping creativity? What are the dogmas and taboos in terms of landscape architecture projects?

### **3) Stakeholders, situations and methods since 2000**

Based on the perspectives and the activities of the key players, we intend to explore innovative forms of relationships and the organisation of decision-making and action in landscape projects within the framework of regeneration schemes.

An approach to landscape architecture may be characterised as the contact with people and places, and as something which does not separate things or designated areas. Can an approach of this kind impact on the divergence identified by Françoise Choay, between the “environment articulated according to the rules of contiguity and built to human scale” and “the engineering of spatial planning”? Can it shift the debate and different forms of logic, or adopt them not as incompatibilities but as interests which, together, shape the situation and inform the project process?

Are the divergences and conflicts simply an assertion of differing perspectives arising from different registers (political, economic, social, aesthetic, etc.)? This calls to mind the question posed by Étienne Tassin, “What is acting *with* others?”<sup>vii</sup>

In recent studies conducted for the SCOT (regional strategic plan) has the landscape become a value or a concept that enables the designers to express for themselves and for others (inhabitants, local and regional authorities) the space in question and its possible regeneration, or is it a consumer product? Which landscape are we talking about? What are the economic, cultural and social stakes involved in landscape architecture?

In a similar vein, which space are we talking about? Is it a single, multiple, continuous or discontinuous area? In the field of ethnology, land and territory are analysed in relation to questions of identity and otherness, particularisation and appropriation of spaces, and even exclusion. Does this imply that the cultural and social content of spatial planning and landscape design can be combined or not?

The writer and the artist, who in European history were largely responsible for ‘inventing’ landscapes, change the tools and perceptions. Do they help to set out the concepts, the codes (of representation, nomination, regulations) and the systems? Are they needed today to actively take part in landscaping projects, after their works or representations have been used as references and elements of analysis that are central to the debate?<sup>viii</sup>

### Scientific Editors

- **Catherine Grout**, Philosophy of Art and Art Historian, Doctor in the History of Art and Aesthetics (HDR), researcher at the LACTH (design), professor at the ENSAP, Lille
- **Denis Delbaere**, DPLG Landscape Architect, Doctor in Science of Language, researcher at the LACTH (land (use), spatial planning), lecturer at the ENSAP, Lille

### Academic Committee

Jennifer Buyck, Architect INSA (PhD in progress at the LACTH and the CEAC of Lille 3) - Denis Delbaere, Landscape Architect (LACTH, ENSAPL) - Isabelle Estienne, Architect (PhD in progress LACTH and at the TVES laboratory, Lille 1) - Catherine Grout, Art Philosopher (LACTH, ENSAPL) - Serge Koval, Architect (ENSAPL) - Philippe Louguet, Architect (LACTH, ENSAPL) - Caroline Maniaque, Architect, Historian (LACTH, ENSAPL) - Dominique Mons, Geographer (LACTH, ENSAPL)

### Calendar

June 2008: Call for contributions

15 September 2008: Deadline for submitting abstracts

October 2008: Review of proposals and selection of contributions

15 February 2009: Deadline for submitting articles

September 2009: Publication of *Cahiers thématiques*

### Guidelines for contributions

A **proposal** of between 1500 and 2000 characters must be submitted to the LACTH coordinator by **15 September 2008** for selection by the peer review committee.

**Final contributions** must be submitted to the National School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture in Lille by **15 February, 2009** at the latest, preferably in electronic form (or, if absolutely necessary, on CD together with a hard copy).

The articles should be **between 20,000 and 25,000 characters maximum** (including spaces, not including notes), accompanied by an abstract of **1000 characters maximum** and a

presentation of the author (**3 lines maximum**). **Articles longer than this format will be returned to the authors.**

Notes must be presented at the end of the article and should be typed in linear form. At the end of this document you will find a model layout for the notes (**no automatic footnotes or automatic end of document notes, and no automatic note numbering**).

Any illustrations (**4 black and white illustrations maximum**), supplied on traditional or digital support (**300 Dpi minimum in TIF format**), must be copyright free. All illustrations should have a caption and the author must mention the order and positioning with respect to the text. If the illustrations are from magazines, books or from private or public archives, **the authors must attach a written authorisations from the copyright holders** (photographs, editors, archive centre, etc.) and must confirm that they are genuinely free of copyright.

When submitting an article in response to the call for contributions, the authors automatically authorise the School of Architecture in Lille to publish their contribution in *Cahiers thématiques* N° 9. There is no financial compensation for the contributions.

### **Contacts**

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### **Dissemination**

This call for contributions will be sent to all the research teams and laboratories in the national schools of architecture and landscape architecture in France, as well as to a number of research units abroad.

## PRESENTATION OF BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(adopted by the national printers for general works)

### For a book:

1. Domenach (Jean-Luc) and Richer (Philippe), *La Chine*, 1949-1985, Paris, Imprimerie nationale, coll. « Notre Siècle », 1987, 504 p.

### For a contribution to a co-authored book:

2. Roth (François), « Les Luxembourgeois en Lorraine annexée, 1871-1918 », in Poidevin (R.) and Trausch (G.), *Les relations franco-luxembourgeoises au début du XX<sup>e</sup> siècle*, Metz, Centre de recherches, Relations internationales, 1978, t. II, p. 175-183.

### For an article in a periodical:

3. Walter (Rodolphe), « Le parc de Monsieur Zola », *L'Œil*, n° 272, March 1978, p. 18-25

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i For an extract of this issue, see: <http://www.lille.archi.fr/index.php?ID=1014702>

Completed or ongoing reference research work (LACTH / ENSAPL) :

- supervised by Philippe Louguet, « *Inventer les futurs de la métropole lilloise : échelles, modèles et scénarios. Une métropole transfrontalière en projet(s)* »: cross-discipline research programme « *L'architecture de la grande échelle* » 2007-2009, MCC/DAPA/BRAUP, MEDAD/ DGUHC/PUCA

- supervised by Serge Koval, « *Les formes de la transversalité à l'œuvre* » (study about Lille1 university campus): cross-discipline research programme « *Art, architecture, paysages* » 2005-2007, MCC/DAPA/BRAUP, MTETM/DGUHC, MEDD/DNP, INHA, final report March 2008

- seminar « *Les OREAM, laboratoires de prospective urbaine* » organised by Maryvonne Prévot (Historian, lecturer, TVES Lille1) and Isabelle Estienne (LACTH and TVES Lille1) in 2006

- supervised by Dominique Mons and Serge Koval, « *Fonctionnement et dysfonctionnement des politiques publiques appliquées au paysage en France du Nord* », (call for offers « *Politiques publiques et paysage, analyse, évaluation, comparaisons* ») final report March 2002. One of the lines of methodology involved analysing the discourse of the local players in charge of landscape and their representations.

ii Redevelopment and the action of transforming something which has already been transformed (Larousse).

iii *Spatial planning, land use (territoire)* is understood as “a stretch of land on which groups of human beings live” and as “an area under the jurisdiction of a ruler or a state” (Grand Robert in French). It also includes “the various forms of relationship with space that individuals and social groups continually produce and transform in the frame of their social relations,” written by Alphanféry and Bergues in the *Revue d'Ethnologie Française* in n° 34 dedicated to *Territoires* in 2004.

iv The philosopher, Jean-Marc Besse, identified five main orientations: a “cultural” orientation which highlights the aspect of landscape representations, another cultural orientation which promotes the aspects of production processes and the forms of settlements in the landscapes, a “realist” orientation which considers the landscape as a material reality, a “phenomenological” conception which explores the forms of ways of being within the landscape, the experience and the event (the subject belongs to a moment in time), and lastly a projectual concept which sees the landscape as a site to plan, transform, conserve. We felt it was important to pick up on the common points regarding the concept of landscape, particularly as a safe investment and a “painting effect”, and replace them with considerations regarding the contemporaneity of the challenges.

v The idea of developing the landscape on the scale of an area of land has been widely discussed in the USA, notably by Ian L. McHarg, author of *Design with Nature*, published in 1969 which relates the experiences of

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landscape architecture and design conducted over more than a decade with his students. This seminal text was not published in France until 1980, where it found an echo in certain state-coordinated spatial planning experiences.

vi Apart from the experiments conducted by Jacques Sgard, whose first landscape plan for a municipality dates from 1955, landscape projects and programmes conducted on the scale of a specific area began in France in the 1960s with interministerial briefs to develop areas for tourism. They generally concerned long-term projects (OREAM) and medium-term projects in the spatial planning of tourist resorts and New Towns. In a similar vein, the first regeneration work on industrial wasteland that included landscape design aimed to provide an acceptable solution encompassing the notion of “preverdissement”. The creation of the *Mission Paysage*, the CAUE and the institution of the charters for natural regional parks form the framework for the first landscape project commissions from regional authorities. The French landscape law introduced in 1993 officially brought in landscape plans encompassing agricultural, industrial and urban regeneration. Only a few of these landscape plans were finally adopted and developed. Since the end of the 1990s, there have apparently been far fewer commissions for landscape architecture in this domain, while at the same time new competencies and expertise have permeated these programmes.

vii This issue “implies that a ‘political’ society is a community of players — citizens *acting* together — and not the simple grouping of individuals *living* side by side or *sharing* a supposedly common object” in *Un monde commun, pour une cosmo-politique des conflits*, Paris, *éditions du Seuil*, 2003, terms highlighted by the author.

viii In France, we are thinking about commissions made in the 1980s for photographs by the *Délégation à l’aménagement du territoire et à l’action régionale* then by the *Mission de l’Observatoire photographique du Paysage* set up in 1989 by the Minister of Planning and the Environment. This important work dealt mainly with questions of representation and views linked to issues concerning the evolution of landscapes. Nonetheless, the input from art both in and for landscaping raises questions about, and goes beyond, the processes of representation.