MODERNISM, MODERNISATION AND THE RURAL LANDSCAPE
abstract book and program

MODSCAPES2018 conference & Baltic Landscape Forum
Tartu, 11-13 June 2018
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MODSCAPES explores rural landscapes produced by large-scale agricultural development and colonisation schemes planned in the 20th century throughout Europe and beyond. It investigates 11 case studies across Europe and beyond.

... BUT WHO EVER HEARD ABOUT ‘MODERNIST’ RURAL LANDSCAPES?

At first sight, there is a contradiction between ‘modernist’ and ‘rural’. Yet, throughout the 20th century, many European States imagined, adopted and implemented large scale development and agricultural schemes to modernise the countryside: parliamentary as well as fascist regimes, socialist republics or colonial powers. Today, there are thousands of modernist farms, hamlets, villages and towns in Europe and beyond, where several million inhabitants live or have lived.

Modernist rural development schemes were pivotal to Nation- and State-building policies, and to the modernization of the countryside. They provided a testing ground for the ideas of scientists, architects, engineers, planners, landscape architects and artists, who converged around a shared challenge. Their implementation produced modernist rural landscapes (MRL).

MODSCAPES aims to explore, document, and raise awareness around this largely underestimated shared cultural heritage, which has seldom been the topic of international and interdisciplinary research.

MODSCAPES looks at modernist rural landscapes as the physical embodiment of policies, borrowing methods to design-oriented disciplines, tested against three humanities-driven concepts:

• The introduction of modernism – as the cultural and artistic expression of core modern values – in the countryside blurred conventional understanding of modernity. In modernist rural landscapes, “high modernism” – the visual order imposed by planners to make modern societies “legible” – had a crucial role.

• Modern nation-states mediated the contradictions brought by the modernisation of large-scale societies using “imagination” and “creativity” to build
new communities and identities. Focusing on **reinvention** is about identifying the different “styles” of such “national imaginings”, and about how change was “creatively” managed or steered.

- A unifying paradigm for a trans-disciplinary approach to the topic’s tangible (the built environment) and intangible legacies (the related cultural and socio-political contexts), **landscape** is used to bridge arts and humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences, and to integrate research, policy, and practice effectively. Being the world “as perceived by people”, landscape is a means of approaching history with an action-oriented objective.

Modernist rural landscapes are approached by **MODSCAPES** through 5 question-driven work packages:

1. **Documenting ADCP/ADCS:**
   What was debated and planned?

2. **Physical Legacies:**
   What was realized and what remains?

3. **Sociocultural Impacts:**
   What were the broader impacts?

4. **Memories & Perceptions:**
   How do people see these landscapes today?

5. **Change & Challenges:**
   What should be done?

Find out more by visiting our online tools:

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- [www.facebook.com/Modscapes/](http://www.facebook.com/Modscapes/)
- [youtube.com/channel/UCFM7qpjjaqEGilzHecFs-BA](http://youtube.com/channel/UCFM7qpjjaqEGilzHecFs-BA)

**Official logos and contacts:** [modscapes.eu/contact/](http://modscapes.eu/contact/)
MODSCAPES is proud to announce its mid-term event, an international conference dedicated to its research topic:

Modernist reinventions of the rural landscape.

In collaboration with CIVILSCAPE, an associated partner in MODSCAPES, the conference hosts the Baltic Landscape Forum 2018. The event MODSCAPES_conference2018 & Baltic Landscape Forum 2018 is part of the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 since it is co-organized by CIVILSCAPE - a member of the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018’s Stakeholder Committee.

The Conference takes place in Tartu, second largest city of Estonia, and home to the Estonian University of Life Sciences, partner in MODSCAPES and organizer of the conference, from 11 to 13 June 2018.

This conference’s general objectives are:
• attracting other scholars, practitioners, decision-makers and citizens concerned with modern rural landscapes
• gaining insight in case-studies and approaches not examined within the project,
• disseminating the intermediary outcomes of the project,
• consolidating MODSCAPES’ international network.

The conference has been preceded by an international call for papers, and comprises keynote lectures, presentation sessions, and social events.

All accepted papers will be published in online proceedings, expected to be made available in Autumn 2018. The conference organizers are taking provisions to propose a selection of the best conference papers (including papers by non-MODSCAPES scholars) to be improved and published in edited journal issues.

The Conference venues are the Assembly Hall - Peahoone Main Building at the Eesti Maaülikool (Estonian University of Life Sciences), and the freshly completed Eesti Rahva Muuseum (Estonian National Museum), a gem of contemporary architecture and landscape architecture.
Apartment buildings in the Padise kolkhoz, Estonia, panoramic view.

Padise korterelamud, panoraamvaade.

Architects: Boris Mirov, Peep Jänes, Tõnu Mellik, 1970s/1980s

MODERNISM, MODERNISATION AND THE RURAL LANDSCAPE
abstract book & program

CALL FOR PAPERS

The impact of the Modern Movement and modernisation processes on rural landscapes in Europe and beyond is a widespread but little known, recognised or understood phenomenon which still exerts effects today. Within the third joint research programme of HERA (Humanities in the European Research Area) dedicated to “The uses of the past” which started in 2016, this subject is now being studied through several lenses within the MODSCAPES project.

In recent decades, fields as diverse as geography, rural sociology, cultural studies and a number of design-related disciplines such as landscape architecture and architectural and planning history have turned their attention towards the rural landscape as an emerging field of practice and conceptualization, endeavouring to reverse the so-called ‘divorce’ between design and agriculture occurred after the Second World War. The Modern movement started to make an impact on rural landscapes as early as the mid-19th century (with the experiments of utopian socialism, radical state reformism, and enlightened philanthropy), and even more from the 1920s onwards, especially in the frame of late colonisation as well as the new political movements of the time – such as Fascism, Socialism, Communism, Zionism, Anarchism, Communalism, the Co-operative Movement...

In an attempt to cope with a “problematic” social group, an unproductive or underproductive land, and the dramatical backwardness of the agricultural sector, different actors such as Nation-States, government assisted organizations, bottom-up movements or groups, and even individuals, engaged in more or less extensive campaigns to dramatically reshape the countryside. With the help of experts in many different fields, they started imagining, planning and implementing radically new ideas. Through selective uses of the past and tradition, they “re-invented” unprecedented ideas of rurality. The resulting landscapes of intensive agriculture and mechanisation, the many new rural settlements and agricultural building complexes, the impact of large-scale drainage schemes as well as the social and cultural legacies of the times make for a rich field of research.

The conference is combined with the Baltic Landscape Forum 2018, and is part of the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 since it is co-organized by CIVILSCAPE - a member of the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018’s Stakeholder Committee.

Therefore it will also emphasis which actors, ideas and concepts have influenced each other when the modern movement implemented new concepts of landscape planning and management forming our current day cultural landscape heritage.
The conference invites researchers from any discipline (including but not limited to those noted above) to come together and share their work. Themes which are of interest include:

- The role of political systems in rural settlement planning, internal colonisation and state building
- Modernism in rural settlement planning and rural architecture
- The impact of modernisation (e.g., mechanisation, land drainage, plant breeding, mono-cultural cropping, fertilisers and pesticides) on the structure and function of the rural and natural landscape
- The image of modernisation of rural landscapes as presented through film, photography, art, propaganda and literature
- Changing social structures which emerged through political and economic processes
- Memories, stories and the voices of the people who helped to drive the modernisation process and who lived through it as farmers, villagers and colonists
- The physical legacies of the modernisation period as expressed in the landscape and built elements, (e.g., whether continuing in use or abandoned and ruined)
- Pilot and model experiments: experimental farms, exhibition villages, prison farms, model agricultural schools
- Alternative plans and schemes: paths not taken to modernize the countryside
- The place of the rural house within discourses and debates around vernacular, traditional, and modernist architecture, in the countryside as well as in the city
- Current practices and experiments in conservation, preservation, heritage, and landscape restoration of modernist rural landscapes and architecture
- Social engineering: the making, remaking and unmaking of new rural identities
- Who are the policy-makers? The role of experts, companies, settlers in modernist agrarian policies
- Which modernisms for which modernities? Concrete evidences and rhetorical symbols of power, coercion, freedom and emancipation
- Appropriation and inhabitation: adoption, rejection or subversion of agrarian policies, schemes, blueprints, spaces and buildings by their inhabitants through time
- Major and minor political, agronomical, planning and design theories of agrarian modernization

Proposals may address modernist rural landscapes at any scale, ranging from the single building or site, to nation-wide policies, or transnational comparative approaches.

The period of interest is focused on the “short” 20th century, but may as well
deal with case studies dating back to the “long” 19th century. Papers dealing with current issues, challenges, practices or experiments in planning, design, landscape architecture or stewardship, etc. for modernist rural landscapes are most welcome.

The geographical focus of the conference is mainly Europe, and its influences beyond its borders. However, proposals dealing with case studies in any geographic location are welcome.

Over and all, the conference aims at offering, probably for the first time at this scale, a broad overview of the wide range of experiments and conditions testifying of the engagement of modernism towards the rural question. In particular, it aims at verifying to which extent the concept of “modernist rural landscapes” can help to frame a multitude of local, regional or national episodes in the history of architecture, planning and landscapes, as a trans-national phenomenon.

Within this frame, successful proposals will focus on documenting concrete and well delimited case studies, but will also strive to develop their theoretical implications, related methodological issues, and current significance. In particular, participants are invited to elaborate on the three main concepts underlying the MODSCAPES project: “modernism”, “reinvention”, and “landscape”.
OVERALL PROGRAMME

MONDAY 11 June
EMU - Estonian University of Life Sciences
Peahoone Main Building, Kreutzwaldi 1a

17.00
REGISTRATIONS / WELCOME DESK

18.00 - 20.00
OPENING SESSION
Conference hall, 2nd floor

WELCOME ADDRESSES
Simon Bell, EMÜ - Chair of Landscape Architecture
Ülle Jaakma, EMÜ - Vice-Rector of Research
Andres Koppel, ETAg Estonian Research Council – Director General

INTRODUCING MODSCAPES
Axel Fisher, TU Berlin / ULB / FNRS

19.00 - 20.00
KEYNOTE LECTURE (PLENARY)
Conference Hall, 2nd floor

Catherine Maumi, ENSA-Grenoble / Université Grenoble Alpes
Introduced by: Cristina Pallini
Discussants: Cristina Pallini & Vittoria Capresi

20.00
BUFFET DINNER
Cafeteria, ground floor
TUESDAY 12 June
ERM - Estonian National Museum

8.00  REGISTRATIONS / WELCOME DESK

9.00 - 10.45  PARALLEL SESSIONS 1

1A • INVENTED RURALITIES, DESIGNED COMMUNITIES
Jakob Hurt Hall

1B • MODERNIST RURAL PLANNING: PARADIGMS
Aliise Moor Auditorium

1C • MAPPING MODERNIST RURAL LANDSCAPES: METHODOLOGIES AND OUTCOMES
Helmi Kurrik Auditorium

10.45 - 11.15  TEA / COFFEE BREAK

11.15 - 13.00  PARALLEL SESSIONS 2

2A • BOTTOM-UP PERSPECTIVES ON MODERNIST RURALITIES
Jakob Hurt Hall

2B • MODERNIST RURAL PLANNING: COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVES
Aliise Moor Auditorium

2C • MAPPING MODERNIST RURAL LANDSCAPES: SPECULATIVE APPROACHES
Helmi Kurrik Auditorium

13.00 - 14.30  LUNCH

14.30 - 15.30  KEYNOTE LECTURE (PLENARY)
Jakob Hurt Hall
Ana Tostões (Docomomo International; Tecnico - University of Lisbon)
Introduced by: Helena Maia
Discussants: Helena Maia & Vittoria Capresi

15.30 - 16.00  TEA / COFFEE BREAK

16.00 - 17.45  PARALLEL SESSIONS 3

3A • MODERNIST RURALITIES BETWEEN REPRESENTATIONS AND PROPAGANDA
Jakob Hurt Hall

3B • MODERNIST RURAL PLANNING: CULTURAL AND PHYSICAL LEGACIES
Aliise Moor Auditorium

3C • MAKING AND PRESERVING MODERNIST RURAL HERITAGE
Helmi Kurrik Auditorium

19.00  CONFERENCE DINNER (Optional)
ATLANTIS RESTAURANT, Narva maantee 2
MODERNISM, MODERNISATION AND THE RURAL LANDSCAPE
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WEDNESDAY 13 June
ERM - Estonian National Museum

9.30 - 10.45
PARALLEL SESSIONS 4

4A • TAMING NATURE
Jakob Hurt Hall

4B • MAPPING MODERNIST RURAL LANDSCAPES : SHIFTING LAND USES AND PATTERNS
Aliise Moor Auditorium

10.45 - 11.15
TEA / COFFEE BREAK

11.15 - 13.00
PARALLEL SESSIONS 5

5A • MODERNIST RURAL PLANNING: ANTECEDELENTS, COPYCATS & MAVERICKS
Jakob Hurt Hall

5B • ENCOUNTERS BETWEEN INFRASTRUCTURES AND RURAL LANDSCAPES
Aliise Morra auditorium

13.00 - 14.30
LUNCH

14.30 - 15.30
KEYNOTE LECTURE (PLENARY)
Jakob Hurt Hall

Gerhard Ermischer
(Spessartprojekt / CIVILSCAPE / Council of Europe’s iNGOs Conference)
Introduced by: Axel Fisher
Discussants: Axel Fisher & Simon Bell

15.30 - 16.00
TEA / COFFEE BREAK

16.00 - 17.45
CLOSING SESSION (PLENARY)
Jakob Hurt Hall

PARTNER ADDRESSES
16.00 Simon Bell, (ECLAS)
16.20 Dirk Gotzmann (CIVILSCAPE)

CONCLUDING REMARKS - KEYNOTE LECTURE 4
16.45 Simon Bell (EMÜ)

17.45 - 18.30
REFRESHMENTS & NETWORKING

18.30 - 20.00
GUIDED VISIT (optional)
to the ESTONIAN NATIONAL MUSEUM
VENUES:
ESTONIAN UNIVERSITY OF LIFE SCIENCES:

Peahoone Main Building, Kreutzwaldi 1a, TARTU
Wifi: Network and password will be put on the wall of the hall.
VENUES:
ERM - EESTI RAHVA MUUSEUM
ESTONIAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

Muuseumi tee 2, TARTU

Wifi: ERM public, no password.
Registration: Next to the entrance A-Lobby

The three rooms of the conference:
1. Jakob Hurt hall
2. Aliise Moor Auditorium
3. Helmi Kurrik Auditorium

Lunches and coffee breaks: in the area in front of Jakob Hurt hall
Toilets: right across Aliise Moor Auditorium or downstairs in the cloakroom
GETTING AROUND IN TARTU

From the centre to the campus of Estonian University of Life Sciences

The university campus is on the outskirts of the city. The distance from the bus station and train station is practically the same.

The Peahoone Main building of the University (Kreutzwaldi, 1a, Tartu) is just opposite the hostel “Torn”.

You can take a bus or a taxi to the Peahoone Main Building of Eesti Maaülikool. The taxi drivers all speak some English and all the taxis are equipped with a metre.

From the train station, bus no.20 will take you straight to the campus (“Tartu näitused” stop). See the schedule here:
http://www.peatus.ee/#city;tartu-linn;bus;46583;123046/eng

From the bus station, buses no.6 and 20 will take you to the campus. See the schedule here.
http://www.peatus.ee/#city;tartu-linn;bus;46583;123046/eng

From the centre to Estonian National Museum

On foot: If you move from the city centre upwards on the Roosi street, walk (approx. 30 minutes) until you cross Muuseumi tee and you will see the Estonian National Museum.

By public transport: Next to Kvartal centre in city centre, take a bus number 27. It will make a stop in front of the museum. (ride once per hour in the early morning, then up to twice per hour !)
**Bus tickets**
As your stay in Tartu is short-term you can buy single tickets from the bus driver. One ticket costs 1.50 €.

**Taxi**
You can use your phone, a number of apps or find one of the many stops in the city to get a taxi in Tartu. Prices may vary somewhat, and the same applies to day and night rates. Consider 5€ as an approximate rate from the centre to any location in the City or outskirts.

- Dorpat Takso +372 7800 800
- Elektritakso 1918, +372 5749 5749
- Krooni Takso +372 733 3666, +372 513 3366
- Minu Takso +372 733 3333
- Rivaal Takso 12 252, +372 742 2222
- SV Takso +372 734 3333
- Välk Takso 1917, +372 5685 8954
- Takso Üks 1210, +372 742 0000
- Takso 2 +372 7 222 222, +372 7 666 666
- Tartu Taksod +372 455 5555
- Tartu Taksopark1200, +372 730 0200
- Tudungi Takso 1300
RURALISM AS OPPOSED TO URBANISM; REGIONAL PLANNING AS HUMAN ECOLOGY. When Modernity was also an Invitation to be Inhabitants of the Earth
Catherine Maumi (ENSA-Grenoble / Univ. Grenoble Alpes)

At the beginning of the 20th century, the United States do not reflect anymore the ideal of being the “Garden of the World”, one which had fostered the imagination of its inhabitants since the end of the 18th century, and had built a specific landscape – the pastoral or middle landscape – during the 19th. The country has now established itself as a major industrial and economic force, and New York symbolizes this new national power. However, this evolution wasn’t without serious consequences on the living conditions within the urban and rural realms, where a large part of the population was getting poorer. It had also caused dramatic transformations of the natural landscape and even, more important, large-scale ecological disasters.

These significant changes invited some professionals and intellectuals (economists, architects, landscape architects, urban planners, foresters, etc.) to work on new economic, political and spatial proposals in order to avoid all kind of speculation – on the land, money and on human workforce...
– and to imagine new ways of life on Earth more respectful of its resources, natural ecosystems, but also of the living world, humans being part of it.

The first proposal we will focused on is the idea of geotechnics, or Regional planning, as defined by Benton MacKaye, and as illustrated by his project for the Appalachian Trail, first presented in 1921. According to MacKaye, “Regional planning is ecology. It is human ecology; its concern is the relation of the human organism to its environment”.

The second project is the one proposed by Frank Lloyd Wright with Broadacre City, illustrated by the model shown in 1935; it was built with the purpose of explaining to the general public a new, cooperative and democratic way of life on Earth. It is impossible to dissociate anymore the rural realm from the urban one in Broadacre City, where “it is true that landscape becomes architecture just as architecture becomes a kind of landscape. But both are integral with the ground and are an orchestration of form according to nature”.

Both visions are inviting us to think about the problems we have to face now, on the 21st Century, on any place of the Earth.

Catherine Maumi is architect. She holds a PhD from the EHESS in Urban Studies, an HDR (research habilitation) from the University Paris 8, and is Full Professor in History and Theories of Architecture and the City at the ENSA - École nationale supérieure d’architecture of Grenoble, where she heads the research laboratory MHAevt - Métiers de l’Histoire de l’Architecture, édifices-villes-territoires, Univ. Grenoble Alpes (mhaevt.hypotheses.org - www.grenoble.archi.fr).

Her researches are mainly focused on the thoughts developed at the scale of the city and the territory and question more particularly the North-American architectural and urban cultures, trying to identify their specificities compared to the European ones.

On these topics, she published, among others:

This lecture intends to reflect on the territory occupation and to discuss the link between the vernacular rural tradition and the will to define a modern architecture. Questions such as typology, mass housing and high-density versus low-rise will be addressed.

Scholars consider that the Modern Movement architecture influenced above all the city developments since it was oriented towards the Urban realm. This focus would eventually mean the disregard of the countryside, leading to a paradox when it comes to look at modern rural landscapes. However, soon the argument of the relationship between modernity and cultural identity emerged in this framework, deeply connected with vernacular rural architecture: in a way to support the definition of the esthetical programme and legitimate a kind of modern expression several studies on popular architecture were carried on.

Linked to the worldwide panorama where these concerns have been addressed, connecting Previ in Peru or Los Portales in Chile with other ex-
amples, the analysis will focus on the typology assessments recalled from vernacular architecture. From that perspective, the goal of this research is to reveal the path that a new generation of architects from 60s ongoing assumed through a strong commitment between modernity and tradition.

Finally, this knowledge will be linked with the development of the Project SAAL - Local Ambulance Support Service (1974-1976) - with particular attention to projects like Bairro de São Victor by Álvaro Siza and Casal das Figueiras by Gonçalo Byrne - that found the opportunity to continue the previous ideas, simultaneously solving the urgent Housing problem the country was facing.

**Ana Tostões**, PhD is an architect, architecture critic and historian, and is president of Docomomo International and Editor of the Docomomo Journal. She is a Full Professor at the Instituto Superior Técnico, University of Lisbon, where she teaches Theory of Architecture and Critical History, and coordinates the Architectonic Culture research group. She was awarded the X Bienal Ibero-Americana de Arquitectura y Urbanismo Prize 2016. She also works as a critic in Journals and Newspapers, notably writing a weekly architectural column for the Portuguese daily the Público.

Her research field is the Critical History and Theory of Contemporary Architecture, focusing on the relationship between European, Asian, African and American cultures. On this topic, she has published books and essays, curated exhibitions and organised scientific events.

On these topics, she published, among others:

- *The Shape of the City*, (as editor), IST Press, Lisbon, 2017.
The Spessart is a typical upland region in Germany and twenty years ago a group of archaeologists, historians and other cultural scientists started a volunteer project to study and communicate this landscape – a landscape with an image of poverty and seen a marginal landscape. So the focus was on the history and features of cultural landscapes reflecting an older past, their developed also a focus on modern landscape features: the motorway intersecting the Spessart and connecting it with the regional economic centres built in the 1950s, the first high rise buildings in the area, the abandoned irrigations systems and water meadows, the modern agricultural landscape in the east of the Spessart with its fast changing economic and social structure. These modern elements were often neglected, invisible to observers, seen as neither nice nor important. But for the local people they turned out to be of a great importance for their own identity and visitors started to get interested as soon as they were confronted with the person-
al stories of the local people – stories they could relate to from their own experiences. These developments were fostered by experiences from partners throughout Europe in a series of partner projects where ideas, methods and different approaches to the more recent heritage influenced the work of the academics with the local population in the Spessart. Volunteers often relate very strongly to this modern heritage and want to tell their own stories about it. It is a history which is still alive and therefore the participative aspect of dealing with it, or in our case to create a thematic trail to tell the story of a specific landscape, is more personal than in cases dealing with a more distant past. This shall be exemplified mainly by examples of the Spessart region, but also from the European network that influenced the work in the Spessart.

Born in Salzburg (Austria), Gerhard Ermisccher studied history and archaeology in Innsbruck (Leopold-Franzens-Universität) and in the United Kingdom (University of Southampton), obtaining his doctoral degree in 1993. He worked as archaeologist and museum curator in Aschaffenburg (Germany) since 1991, and established an association dedicated to the cultural landscape of the Spessart region in 1998 (http://www.spessartprojekt.de). This association, based on the participatory contribution of some 7,000 volunteer citizens engaged in research, interpretation and management activities for the Spessart landscape, is now a fully acknowledged research institute at the University of Würzburg. This early experience of “citizen science” brought him to collaborate with the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention since 2001. Gerhard is one of the founding members of CIVILSCAPE, which he represents at the Council of Europe’s Conference of INGOs (international non-governmental organizations: https://www.coe.int/en/web/ingo/home).
1A • INVENTED RURALITIES, DESIGNED COMMUNITIES
CHAIRS: Ana Tostões & Vittoria Capresi

9.00 - 10.45
Tuesday 12 June 2018
Estonian National Museum
Jakob Hurt Hall

7 Rural Housing as Field of Modernist Experiences
Alexandra Cardoso (ESAP-CEAA Centro de Estudos Arnaldo Araújo); Alexandra Trevisan (ESAP - Escola Superior Artística do Porto); Rute Figueiredo (CEAA-ESAP); Maria Helena Maia (ESAP - Escola Superior Artística do Porto)

27 Type-Planning a Fenno-Swedish Identity. The housing Association for the Swedish Speaking Areas of Finland and the Ideal Rural Home Between 1938 and 1969
Mia Åkerfelt (Åbo Akademi University)

48 Alejandro de la Sota’s Modern Villages: Vernacular Abstraction and Surrealist Modernity
Jean-François Lejeune (University of Miami)

45 Idealisation of the Land: Forming the New Rural Settlements in Early Republican Turkey
Özge Sezer (Berlin Technical University)
The Portuguese proposal to CIAM X (Dubrovnik 1956) was focused on the issue of rural planning. A new village was established among a set of existing ones, working as a structural core. The vernacular influence was clearly present through the images of Trás-os-Montes (Survey on Portuguese Regional Architecture) used as a reference source for the new house typology. In addition to the vernacular, one can also identify modern references, in both Portugal and Spain, within the scope of internal colonization in the 20th century, regarding the settlement of the Portuguese agricultural colonies (1920s-mid1950s) and the pueblos in Spain (1940s-1971), which had significance for the contemporary countryside image. Considering “the evolutive house” of the Portuguese proposal in CIAM X, or the modular solutions of the colonization settlements, one can find examples lying between the trendy and those in rooted architectural culture. In this paper, we analysed the rural 20th century housing idea present in the internal Iberian colonization settlements and in the ideological and political context under the dictatorial regimes. Using a comparative method, two case studies were examined in order to identify and abstract through cross-referencing main rural directions in the different Iberian contexts, and to frame common factors or different experiences, in the application of the planning schemes in both settlement and housing attributes.

Better housing for the rural population was an important part of the Finnish housing discussion in the 20th century. Between 1938 and 1969, Bostadsföreningen för svenska Finland (The housing association for the Swedish speaking areas of Finland) promoted rational housing for the Fenno-Swedish minority. The construction of a collective identity for a minority through dwelling ideals is the main focus of the article. Methods as identity process theory and perspectives on architecture and nationalism are used to interpret the material. Specific questions relate to how modernist architecture became a symbol when constructing an identity for a non-homogeneous minority. The housing association viewed modernist housing as a solution to a political and ideological problem. With efficient homes, Fenno-Swedish farmers were less inclined to sell their homesteads to Finnish speakers and move to the cities, where they were assimilated into the Finnish culture. Mobility was perceived as a threat to the minority, since it led to a loss of voters in areas of political importance. Modernist architecture combined with aesthetics from the vernacular building tradition were used to make the farmers proud of their ancestral homes, willing to stay, securing the ideological home of the Fenno-Swedes.
ALEJANDRO DE LA SOTA’S MODERN VILLAGES: VERNACULAR ABSTRACTION AND SURREalist MODERNITY

Jean-François Lejeune

Asked to implement General Franco’s ambitious “hydro-social dream” of modernization of the countryside, Falangist planners, engineers, and architects of the Instituto Nacional de Colonización (I.N.C.) developed a national strategy of “interior colonization” that, along with the reclamation of extensive regions, included the construction of 302 modern pueblos between 1944 and 1970. Alejandro de la Sota (1913–1996) was one of the first five architects of the I.N.C. He designed Gimenells (1943), which set up the standards for the 1940s, and then four innovative villages: Esquivel (1952), Entrerrios (1954), Valuengo and La Bazana (1956). Based on research within the archives of the Fundación Alejandro de la Sota and the Ministry of Agriculture, this paper summarizes the modernity of his pueblos: the separation of traffic, the propagandistic concept of the open plaza, the volumetric abstraction of the vernacular house, and his ironic use (as understood by Ortega y Gasset) of the Spanish classical. The research emphasizes how de la Sota transcended the functionalist elements of modernity in order to mobilize memories of the real and produce a “surreal” reality. In so doing, he reversed the fundamental reference to the countryside that characterized Spanish surrealism to bring surrealism within the process of Franquist rural modernization.

Kindel (Joaquin del Palacio), Esquivel, pueblo by Alejandro de la Sota, 1952
IDEALISATION OF THE LAND: FORMING THE NEW RURAL SETTLEMENTS IN EARLY REPUBLICAN TURKEY

Özge Sezer

In the early republican period of Turkey, transformation of the rural areas occurred in a development programme that involved peasants: On the one hand, rural lifestyle was idealized in the national and cultural context. Also, Turkish peasantry was considered as a significant labour for the agriculture-based economy. On the other hand, it was aimed to control the rural population in the new settlements, which were forms of internal colonization practiced especially during the second half of 1930s. Starting from this point of view, the new rural settlements, built from 1934 to the end of 1930s, emerged significant examples to explain republican programme to modernize the village community under a united Turkish identity, even in completely diverse localities.

This paper aims to re-open the discussion of Turkey’s nation building and modernization process from a perspective projected to the rural ideals, specifically to the Turkish village. It generally seeks to demonstrate how the policies of early republican authority controlled the rural Turkey in economic and socio-cultural terms, and altered the environment of village community. It particularly focuses on the elaboration of ideas in architectural implementations during the early republican period of Turkey. Consequently, this paper introduces the new rural settlements, emerged in the late 1930s in Turkey, pointing to their values as the historical monuments in Turkey’s architectural culture.


The village Vertetil (today’s Yazikonak) in Elazig, Turkey
1B • MODERNIST RURAL PLANNING: PARADIGMS
CHAIRS: Luca Monica & Victor Brunfaut

9.00 - 10.45
Tuesday 12 June 2018
Estonian National Museum
Aliise Moor Auditorium

34 Regionalism at All Costs – Nallo Mazzocchi Alemanni and the Bradano Valley Land Reclamation Project, 1955
Filippo De Dominicis (Independent Scholar)

47 The Portuguese Internal Colonization. The Country that Could Have Been, but it Was Not
Miguel Moreira Pinto (Cooperativa de Ensino Superior Artístico do Porto); Joana Couto (Cooperativa de Ensino Superior Artístico do Porto)

13 Spatialized Corporatism Between Town and Countryside
Francesca Bonfante (Politecnico di Milano)

15 The Rural Network of Villages as the New Administrative Node for the GDR Countryside. From Ideological Vision to Lived Reality?
Christoph Muth (Technische Universität Berlin)
Between 1950 and 1956, one fifth of the Italian landscape was profoundly reshaped. According to the first ten-year plan issued by the Cassa per il Mezzogiorno after the 1950 Land Reform, 51 great aqueducts and around 3000 kilometers of roads would provide the infrastructural frame to rehouse millions of farmers, while 139 new settlements and 46,450 isolated houses would result from the new subdivision of land. The Land Reform was primarily addressed to Southern Italy: besides the national fund, newly established local authorities were entrusted to handle all technical aspects concerning land reclamation and resettlement. Far from being the bare result of political agreements, such an impressive and multi-faceted reform process stood at the intersection of cultural debates, national ambitions and foreign ascendancies that quested for substantial alternatives to modernization and urbanization. The proposed paper would turn to the controversial action of the Ente di irrigazione di Puglia e Lucania as the most representative case where parallel and of-
ten contrasting initiatives overlapped, intersected and clashed. Indeed, behind the larger infrastructural frame, the manifold of proposals drawn up for resettling farmers - including those to rehouse people living in the Materan Sassi - underlies an entangled network of actors and institutions (the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, UNRRA CASAS, the Italian National Institute for Urbanism amongst others), each striving for a different spatial strategy. The comparative analysis of three relevant case-studies - the contests for designing the Spine Bianche and Torre Spagnola neighborhoods, in Matera, respectively launched by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UNRRA, and the proposal for isolated houses in Irsina drafted by Nallo Mazzocchi Alemanni, from INU - would provide the base for highlighting the role and action of some key professional figures and unfolding the local and foreign lineages of post-war Italian policies on rural planning.

ISTITUTO NAZIONALE DI URBANISTICA 1952, Esperienze urbanistiche in Italia, Rome, I.N.U.
ISTITUTO NAZIONALE DI URBANISTICA 1956, Nuove esperienze urbanistiche in Italia, Rome, I.N.U.
SCRIVANO, P. 2013, Building Transatlantic Italy. Architectural Dialogues with Postwar America, Farnham, Ashgate
THE PORTUGUESE INTERNAL COLONIZATION. 
THE COUNTRY THAT COULD HAVE BEEN, BUT IT WAS NOT
Miguel Moreira Pinto 
Joana Couto

The policies of internal colonization played a fundamental role in the nation-state building process, as well as in the transformation of the rural landscape. In Portugal, the colonization of common lands (baldios) had the objective of increasing agricultural production, to stop the proletarianization of agrarian communities, encouraging small family farming, and land-ownership. Although already proposed at the end of the 19th century, this process of rural colonization was further implemented in the 1940s and 1950s, the period in which a small number of Agricultural Colonies were built. While such process had produced new landscapes that can be regarded today as a cultural and architectural heritage, they remain poorly known and poorly recognized as such. This paper intends to reflect about the models of internal colonization defined in the scope of the political and ideological framework of the Estado Novo fascist regime. Based on different types of sources, it aims to better understand the significance of these rural landscapes as urban and architectural experiments, as well as to contribute to the identification of such settlements as relevant elements of the Portuguese cultural patrimony. Our conclusions do not fail to take into account the modest scale of the colonizing project undertaken by the Portuguese State when compared, for example, to what happened in Spain and Italy. Far below from what was initially planned and conceived, the construction of only 7 Agricultural Colonies can only be seen as trial run for a much larger agrarian reform that never came—the country that could have been, but it was not—taking the rural settlement of Pegões as a model.


Silva, Maria Elisa Oliveira da Silva Lopes da (2011), A propriedade e os seus sujeitos: colonização interna e colónias agrícolas durante o Estado Novo. MSc Thesis in Contemporary History, Lisbon: FCSH-UNL

Caldas, Eugénio de Castro (1998), A Agricultura na História de Portugal. Lisbon: Empresa de Publicações Nacionais
13
SPATIALIZED CORPORATISM BETWEEN TOWN AND COUNTRYSIDE
Francesca Bonfante

This contribution deals with the relationship between town planning, architectural design and landscape in the foundation of “new towns” in Italy. In doing so, I shall focus on the Pontine Marshes, giving due consideration to then emerging theories about the fascist corporate state, whose foundation act may be traced back to Giuseppe Bottai’s “Charter of Labour”. This political-cultural “model” purported a clear hierarchy between settlements, each bound for a specific role, for which specific functions were to be assigned to different parts of the city. Similarly, cultivations in the countryside were to specialise.

In the Pontine Marshes, Littoria was to become a provincial capital and Sabaudia a tourist destination, Pontinia an industrial centre and Aprilia an eminently rural town.

Whereas the term “corporatism” may remind the guild system of the Middle Age, its 1930s revival meant to effectively supports the need for a cohesive organization of socio-economic forces, whose recognition and classification was to support the legal-political order of the state.

What was the corporate city supposed to be? Some Italian architects rephrased this question: what was the future city in Italy the hundred cities?

Bringing to the fore the distinguishing character of the settlements concerned, and based on the extensive literature available, this contribution discusses the composition of territorial and urban space, arguing that, in the Pontine Marshes, this entails the hierarchical triad farm-village-city, as well as an extraordinary figurative research at times hovering towards “classicism”, “rationalism” or “picturesque”. Composition and figuration are therefore not homogeneous, nor mere expressions of the fascist regime. They show instead a constant research, between aesthetics and practice, of an idea of modern city, of public space, of balance between city and countryside.

Giuseppe Bottai, Scritti (edited by di R. Bartolozzi, R. Del Giudice), Cappelli, 1965
Riccardo Mariani, Fascismo e città nuove, Milano, Feltrinelli, 1976
Vv.AA., Anni Trenta. Arte e cultura in Italia, Mazzotta, 1982
Carlo Melograni, Architettura italiana sotto il fascismo. L’orgoglio della modestia contro la retorica monumentale 1926-1945, Bollati Boringhieri, 2008
15
THE RURAL NETWORK OF VILLAGES AS THE NEW ADMINISTRATIVE NODE FOR THE GDR COUNTRYSIDE. FROM IDEOLOGICAL VISION TO LIVED REALITY?
Christoph Muth

This paper presents the case study of the MODSCAPES Technische Universität Berlin team: the agricultural collectives (Landwirtschaftliche Produktionsgenossenschaften – LPGs) of the former German Democratic Republic in the southern Oderbruch.

The paper is divided into two parts: The first discusses the planning and socio-economic theory of the LPGs developed by the East German state, and the ensuing spatial manifestations of these production—and eventually, settlement—schemes. The ruling Socialist Unity Party called for a radical modernization of the agricultural sector through the use of new technologies and increased production scales. Through the collectivization and amelioration of privately-held land, vast tracts of arable land were created. Networks of villages were arranged with housing, shopping, and cultural opportunities that would provide a new type of modern lifestyle, one aimed at equalizing urban and rural living conditions. Here, I highlight major differences between the planned vision and the lived reality of these rural networks.

The second section analyzes the post-Reunification development (1990), focusing on the former model LPG “Einheit” based in Golzow, Brandenburg: I examine the legal procedures guiding the economic transition from socialism to capitalism, as part of the German Reunification (and inclusion in the European Community). I argue that in this period, agricultural production has grown even larger in scale through new waves of modernization processes (automated farming, production outsourcing, etc.); and most significantly, that this subsequent wave of technological modernization capitalizes on the spatial legacy of the LPG. In other words: the expanses of land created by the LPG literally and figuratively “laid the groundwork” necessary for contemporary modes of automated agricultural production. Meanwhile, the surviving physical structures of the GDR-era are partially being re-appropriated and re-used for smaller commercial and communal uses, reflecting the changing social and economic character in the region.
1C • MAPPING MODERNIST RURAL LANDSCAPES: METHODOLOGIES AND OUTCOMES
CHAIRS: Jacques Teller & Paolo Marcolin

9.00 - 10.45
Tuesday 12 June 2018
Estonian National Museum
Helmi Kurrik Auditorium

57 Planning in the Countryside: Models and Ideas for the Rabat Region. (1920-1956)
Michele Tenzon (Université libre de Bruxelles)

63 The Strada Litoranea. Mapping Colonial Rural Landscape Along the Libyan Coastal Road
Alessandro Raffa (Politecnico di Milano)

59 Challenging and Empowering GIS: Mapping to Question the Structure of the Countryside
Aleksa Korolija (Politecnico di Milano); Silvia Boca (Politecnico di Milano)

42 Alive and Kicking” Moving Through and Diving Into the Soviet Kolkhoz and the East German LPG
Friedrich Kuhlmann (Estonian University of Life Sciences)
The contribution explores the overlapping of planning ideas, architectural models and (partially achieved) plans that French technicians elaborated for the Rabat region, in the Moroccan Protectorate, to modernise rural landscape.

Focusing on the inter- and post-war debates, the paper traces the genealogy of these ideas and it describes how original models were adapted to the Moroccan context. Models are presented at different scales:

- the building: in the 1920s, a programme for the construction of model farms was launched, (Secteurs de Modernisation du Paysannat: SMP). The plan was to scatter SMPs along the countryside to teach to the rural population modern cultural techniques. The idea of model farms was inspired by the works of the Tennessee Valley Authority. However, their functioning derived from models employed by the French army during the country’s pacification.

Since the late 1930s, experimental houses for Moroccan peasants were built and after World War II, a programme of mass housing for rural population was launched. Dwellings were (vaguely) inspired by traditional typologies.

- the settlement: the new villages in rural areas built by French in the early years of the Protectorate were mostly military posts then evolved into small commercial poles. In 1947, the urban planner Michel Écochard and his team of collaborators developed a model for a rural centre to serve a community settled in a 10km diameter area.

- the region: on the base of a nation-
al programme that aimed at preventing massive rural exodus, a model for the demographic and economic expansion of rural areas at the regional scale was elaborated. A Chrystallerian, hierarchical network was conceived entailing industrial decentralisation and the reinforcement of mobility infrastructures.

Models are presented in graphic form, using diagrams and schemes and accompanied by quantitative data to facilitate the comparison with agrarian reform programmes in other geographic contexts.


W. Swearingen, Moroccan mirages: agrarian dreams and deceptions 1912-1986, 1987


The construction of the strada litoranea, the first modern infrastructure of Libya, has coincided with an impressive territorial refoundation process. Although the role of this infrastructure in the tourist and rural development had been recognized, the scope and its trasformative qualities in the process of modernization of the territory and of invention of a modern landscape in Libya is still not investigated.

The present paper illustrates an ongoing research, interweaving geography, landscape architecture and architectural planning. Its first aim is to overcome the design related disciplines previous researches, through a less thematic and more 'relational' approach. A process that, starting from the coastal road, can tell the colonial fragments and their relations and reassemble them into a new interpretation of the Libyan peculiar rural landscape. Particularly, the modern strategy for rural development will emerge, also from a topographic point of view. A further element of originality consisted in the mapping process based on multi-scale territorial readings and architectural drawings, both as an instrument of knowledge and of restitution of relations between colonial fragments and strada litoranea. These maps intend to describe the complexity of an ambiguous landscape that oscillates between heterotopia and rooting, designed to be Italian and Libyan together.
CHALLENGING AND EMPOWERING GIS: MAPPING TO QUESTION THE STRUCTURE OF THE COUNTRYSIDE
Aleksa Korolija
Silvia Boca

Largely used by in the Italian tradition of urban studies (Muratori, Canigia, Rossi, etc.) interpretative mapping is even more important to interrogate the relationship between specific geographical features and territorial transformations (settlement patterns over the long period of time, hydraulic works, new rail and road infrastructure, land-use change).

Based on body of work undertaken for the MA degree thesis and later for the supervision of graduating students, our paper argues that - particularly when referred to landscape change in the countryside - interpretative mapping should go well beyond geo-morphological features, addressing the complexity of historical layers embedded in the landscape structure.

This is no linear process. Firstly, we need to define clearly what are we trying to map, tailoring the legend accordingly. Secondly, we need a series of reference maps, the palimpsest for our interpretation. Based on this material, complemented when necessary by additional sources (photos, views, books, interviews and surveys) our interpretative will bring to the fore some elements, ignoring and adding others so as to express facts and phenomena often hardly revealed by basic GIS layering.

Our point is that this approach to interpretative mapping may be particularly useful when moving from the analysis to the project. Undoubtedly, GIS holds a huge potential in showing key physical features, and combining them in a single picture. Nonetheless, can we equate mapping to tracing? How can we correlate, and express, the space-time dimension to the anthropologic significance of landscape transformations?

Our contribution will dwell on some examples of interpretative mapping developed over the last years and concerning fringe areas at various scales (i.e. the region of Behera in the Nile Delta where the boundary between the desert and the countryside has been constantly shifting over the last century; the Pontine Plain within the broader framework of the MODSCAPES project).

Finally, we shall advocate for the necessity to create an inclusive mapping for use from experts from different disciplines, asking ourselves – and the audience – how far this can be achieved pushing the present limits of GIS.

“ALIVE AND KICKING” MOVING THROUGH AND DIVING INTO THE SOVIET KOLKHOZ AND THE EAST GERMAN LPG
Friedrich Kuhlmann

The MODSCAPES project seeks an understanding of how modernist rural landscapes developed over time, in part calling for an understanding of the landscape as a set of intertwining layers assessed by local mapping. In addition, by understanding the spatial grammar of the landscape as well as perceiving it through different media, other aspects can be revealed which are not visible via mapping alone. The East-German and Baltic cases differ from other European examples by the fact that their existence ended nearly 30 years ago and residents and decision-makers from the time are still alive. Thus, we focused on the importance of actions carried out by residents in their everyday lives and ways to connect them with the respective space. If a landscape is understood by layers, then these actions form the “kebab skewers” metaphorically connecting them. Topographic maps from different periods formed the basis for the experiential data collected and interpreted in related steps accompanied by verbal commentaries. Firstly, we “dived” into the area using filming and field recordings simultaneously like a canvas to paint on and in the sense of a journey. Next, 360° surround films were shot at spots to simulate the view of a person turning around, followed by filming of situations representing everyday movement cycles in the area, such as going to work or taking children to school, which evoked an atmosphere of everyday life linking the space and people’s actions. Finally, go-along interviews were used to trigger and stimulate reflections and memories of residents to understand how the space impacted their experiences and perceptions. This process revealed facets of the daily life of the inhabitants, settlers or workers and their social interaction with the landscape, uncovering so far untouched places and unknown spatial relationships.
2A • BOTTOM-UP PERSPECTIVES
ON MODERNIST RURALITIES
CHAIRS: Victor Brunfaut & Emily Bereskin

11.15 - 13.00
Tuesday 12 June 2018
Estonian National Museum
Jakob Hurt Hall

61 Avangard: a Forward-Looking Kolkhoz is Seen as Part of the Past
Kaja Veddel (Estonian University of Life Sciences); Martti Veldi (Estonian University of Life Sciences)

16 “We had a Toilet!” The Modernisation of the Countryside as Perceived by the Inhabitants. The Private and Public Spaces in the new Settlements in Italy and colonial Libya (1932-1939)
Vittoria Capresi (Technische Universität Berlin)

4 The Social Appropriation of the Portuguese Inner Colonisation Project in Boalhosa (1946-1966)
Marta Prista (CRIA/NOVA FCSH)

43 “Life Was Not All That Bad”: Memories and Experiences of Kolkhoz Life in the Baltic States
Friedrich Kuhlmann (Estonian University of Life Sciences); Martti Veldi (Estonian University of Life Sciences)
AVANGARD: A FORWARD-LOOKING KOLKHOZ IS SEEN AS PART OF THE PAST
Kaja Veddel Martti Veldi

Äksi is a small settlement near Tartu in Estonia. The typical Soviet era blocks of flats overlook Lake Saadjärv and the view is met on the other side by large open fields. Back in the Soviet time it was a kolkhoz known as “Avangard” (or “avant-garde”). The name, of course, symbolised the forward-looking new Estonian Soviet state and its accompanying modernisation of the rural landscape. Today the layers of history in the settlement and the landscape around it are visible in the white brick houses built in the early days of the kolkhoz and in the favoured choice of trees planted in the same period but now all grown up. Some of those houses are not in such a great shape anymore, some continue to be used in a similar way they used to be, after the end of the kolkhoz. For example, the workshop building now hosts a company that makes dolls and the piggery has survived despite the change of owners. There are many stories to be shared by those who were part of it all. To gather those memories, and to understand how the starting of new lives for young adults of that time, interviews were carried out using the go-along technique, where the interviewed subject can recall the memories in greater detail, as they walk down the same streets as some decades ago. Although the landscape has visually changed and over two decades have passed since the ending of the Soviet regime, the mind map in peoples’ heads remains vivid. The interviews revealed particular places, views, activities and memories of young adults who came here to start their independent lives, to build a future for them and for the kolkhoz at the same time at the peak of the Soviet era.
Vittoria Capresi

“Our house was beautiful, clean and spacious. And we had a toilet!” is one of the common comments by the initial inhabitants of the new settlements realised under Mussolini in the Pontine Plane (Italy) and colonial Libya between 1932 and 1939.

The foundation of the new towns and new settlements, both in Italy and its colonies, was the necessary step to achieve the project of internal colonisation launched by Mussolini, which envisaged the relocation of population from regions that were overpopulated and had high unemployment rates, to the newly reclaimed areas. Except a few cases, the new settlements based their economy on the agricultural use of the land, promoting the agrarian colonisation of uncultivated areas.

The modernisation of the countryside was promulgated by the unrestrainable fascist propaganda of that time: historical photos, films and descriptions in the press offer an unequivocal picture of progress and modernity, still, obviously presenting only a partial and misleading impression of how life was. But how was the process of resettlement and agrarian reclamation really experienced by the inhabitants? How did they perceive the modernisation of the countryside? What happens if - as an additional level of interpretation - we add the narratives and memories of the inhabitants who lived these moments? Which new insights can the analysis of oral histories of a built space offer us?

The paper aims at presenting the narratives of the initial inhabitants, analysing their perception of the modernity of the town planning and architecture of the settlements. A particular focus will be set on the awareness and use of the private and public spaces.

Like other European regimes, the Portuguese Estado Novo (1933-1974) implemented an agricultural colonisation policy that, influenced by the modernism and neo-physiocraticism ideals, aimed at economic development, social pacification and the fostering of national identities, resulting in the settlement and populating of modern rural landscapes. However, the Portuguese regime coped with an enduring financial crisis, and relied on an official nationalism built upon a conservative-traditional society under the epitomes of God, fatherland, work and family. Unsurprisingly, Portuguese inner colonisation was comparatively small-scaled, aimed to convert farmhands into rural homeowners, and its modernising experiments had limited impacts on landscape. Landscape and place are not passive concepts, though. They concurrently construe and are construed by political and economic agencies, social negotiations, embodied experiences, plural meanings and affections. Looking into primary sources and the outcomes of a micro-ethnography in Boalhosa colony, this paper criss-crosses official-written history and emotional-sensory memory to illustrate consistencies and dissonances between political and social actors’ representations of the Portuguese inner colonisation. Based on exploratory observations in Boalhosa, it argues that while the lack of political assertiveness might have curtailed the Portuguese project, it also favoured its social appropriation by local communities and economies within a contextualised historical and spatial continuum.
“LIFE WAS NOT ALL THAT BAD”: MEMORIES AND EXPERIENCES OF KOLKHOZ LIFE IN THE BALTIC STATES
Friedrich Kuhlmann
Martti Veldi

The physical impact of modernism in the rural landscape and its remains are explored in order both to capture the results of past decisions and the current state of the rural landscapes and to connection these. But if we ask how have these landscapes evolved over time and what actually remains, we often only look on built remains, artefacts or plans forming the raw material. Instead, we put the focus on the actions of the people living and working there, with their memories, reflections, their past desires and their plans achieved or destroyed. Compared with the built remains of collectivisation schemes, many of the actors of the Soviet collectivisation process in the Baltic States are still alive, having a voice and opinions. To capture this involves a survey of case study landscapes and settlements through fieldwork and comparative analysis in order to compare the initial plans with the actual experience of the collectivisation and to relate the built results and spatial patterns to people’s memories. The actions that formed and still form the landscape were identified and assessed by qualitative go-along interviews with current and former residents, workers or decision makers in the area to create a “thick description” through which we uncovered everyday life aspects of dwellers or workers. What we found is that far from being a completely negative period, life in the collective farm was not all bad – housing improved, people had guaranteed jobs, medical care and education were provided. Young people unaware of politics enjoyed their childhoods and there is some degree of nostalgia remaining, even while the new freedoms and independence of the countries are celebrated (with a centenary in 2018).
2B • MODERNIST RURAL PLANNING:
COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVES
CHAIRS: Catherine Maumi & Cristina Pallini

11.15 - 13.00
Tuesday 12 June 2018
Estonian National Museum
Aliise Moor Auditorium

20  From the Thirties to Post-War Reconstruction. The Land Reclamation Consortia and Rural Architecture in Italy
Luca Monica (Politecnico di Milano); Luca Bergamaschi (Politecnico di Milano)

31  Habitat for Modern Rurality in Sardinia. The Relationship between Historical Landscapes and New Colonisation over two Case Studies: Crastu and Pardu Nou
Roberto Sanna (University of Cagliari); Francesco Marras (University of Cagliari)

74  Modernist Rural Settlements in Southern Europe: Sociocultural Impacts
Vilma Hastaoglou-Martinidis (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki); Maria Helena Maia (ESAP - Escola Superior Artística do Porto); Cristina Pallini (Politecnico di Milano)

76  Assessing Modernist Rural Development and Colonization Policies through the Lense of “Comparative Agriculture”
Axel Fisher (Technische Universität Berlin / Université libre de Bruxelles / FNRS)
FROM THE THIRTIES TO POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION: THE LAND RECLAMATION CONSORTIA AND RURAL ARCHITECTURE IN ITALY
Luca Monica Luca Bergamaschi

In Italy, ever since the spread of the Modern Movement, the theme of rural architecture has gained momentum, in reviving settlement and spatial principles as a moral lesson for the general development of new aesthetics and a new society.

New concepts inspired by Arrigo Serpieri such as the “bonifica integrale” and old institutions such as the Land Reclamation Consortia (Consorzi di Bonifica) become official law in 1933, and played a crucial role in this process, particularly in consolidating new architectural thinking that was to endure up to the post-war reconstruction and until now.

Somehow paradoxically, ideologically opposing phenomena, settlements related to extensive land reclamation of the Fascist period and rural redevelopment of the Fifties were actually based on comparable theoretical and operational aspects.

We can recognize these ideas looking at the most interesting experiments developed in these two periods: the city of Sabaudia designed by Piccinato and the village of La Martella at Matera designed by Quaroni (and sponsored by Adriano Olivetti).

The quest for a new “moral aesthetic” of architecture undertaken by leading representatives of Italian Rationalism, that was to re-emerge in the neorealism of post-war reconstruction.

This investigation highlights a new conception of architectural rooted in the studies and research on rural settlements in the agricultural economy, and unlocks a possible regeneration and restoration of the rural villages of cultural heritage.
HABITAT FOR MODERN RURALITY IN SARDINIA.
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HISTORICAL LANDSCAPES AND NEW COLONISATION OVER TWO CASE STUDIES: CRASTU AND PARDU NOU

Roberto Sanna
Francesco Marras

The aim of this paper is to examine the transformations occurred in the more conservative rural areas of Sardinia during the post-WWII, the main focus being on the dynamics between the historical settlement and the modern colonisations during the last century, specifically on the habitat changes occurred in the insular countryside after the institution of the ‘Land and agricultural transformation agency in Sardinia’ back in 1951 - as known as E.T.F.A.S. - within the framework of land reforms, hydraulic clearance and internal re-colonisation episodes of the Italian Agrarian Reform. Indeed, this paper shows how E.T.F.A.S. shaped the lasting dream of inhabit the Sardinian countryside, which was mostly and historically empty of dwellings outside the centralised villages. Two significant cases are herein illustrated as exemplary of the relationship between the newly founded villages and historical landscape features: the inland village of Crastu (which translated from Sardinian sounds like “The Hill”) and the flood plain village of Pardu Nou (i.e. “New Meadow”). The shapes of such reform settlements are paradigmatic of all the territorial transformations engaged over the island. The new designed landscapes embodied at once the issue and the solution towards the modernization of the Sardinian countryside, while water and slope management were used as weapons against the malaria disease and desertification. In this respect, through the analysis both of the modern heritage that still exists in situ and of the documents and historical charts sought in archives, the paper findings explain the issue of the adaptive capacities of such modern rural villages within the historical rural landscape.

As a conclusion, such a relationship could be construed as the default gateway for a better understanding of the truly dynamics between abandonment and transformation in any other contexts of the modern European rurality.
This paper focuses on the thematic core of WP 3 within the broader MODSCAPES project. We shall prioritise the tangible heritage embedded in rural landscapes and related built environment comparing the four case studies of Greece, Italy, Spain and Portugal, each covering a different time span and presenting particular characteristics.

In Greece (1922-1930), agricultural development and inner-colonisation schemes (ADCS) met a refugee problem on scale until then unknown, and in conditions of extreme urgency. Mussolini’s Italy (1922-1943) stands out for the close relationship between town planning and architectural design in the production of new iconic townscapes. The relevance of Franco’s Spain (early 1930s-1975) lies in the large scale of reclamation and agricultural works led by the newly founded Instituto Nacional de Colonizacion.

In the Portugal of Salazar, instead, the Junta de Colonizaçao Interna implemented only a few settlements from 1926 to the mid-1950s, despite a huge investment in infrastructural works and technical cadres.

The scope of our paper is to define some terms of comparability within this highly fragmented picture. We aim at outlining a theoretical framework and an operational methodology to address the relationship between agricultural units, village layout, rural house and complementary public buildings.
To do so, we shall targeting the following points:
- Geographic location, and significance, of regions subject ADCS in the broader national contexts;
- New settlement hierarchy brought about by ADCS;
- Patterns of land subdivision and village layout;
- Embryos of collective life (which buildings, community facilities and spaces formed the core of the village).

Consider modernist rural landscapes themselves as a repository of cultural meaning, we shall comparing a number of examples from the four case studies, trying to decode traditional and new socio-cultural practices, of the relationship between individuals, social sub-groups and local authorities.

FLORES SOTO, José Antonio (2013), La construcción del lugar. La plaza en los pueblos del Instituto Nacional de Colonización, Historia Agraria, 60. Agosto 2013, p. 119-154
SECRETARIADO DE PROPAGANDA NACIONAL (s./d.), Colonização Interna, Cadernos do Ressurgimento Nacional, Lisboa
While there has been an enduring scholarly interest for what we have named “Modernist Rural Landscapes” within MODSCAPES, few have attempted to approach the topic for what they primarily are: agricultural development policies. To which extent are Modernist Rural Landscapes in fact the result of a “development” policy, and of which kind of development are we actually talking about?

Some empiric observations on the case studies considered within MODSCAPES show the oscillation of such policies between a limited number of well-established and fundamentally opposed farming models: the isolated small-holders family farm on one hand, and the US-inspired large and extensive industrial farm, with the collective farm attempting to reconcile the two. But is it possible to go beyond mere the description of the planning objectives underlying the planning scheme for this or that Modernist Rural Landscape, and make an attempt to evaluate who actually benefited and benefits from one of these agricultural development schemes?

To this aim, the discipline of “Comparative Agriculture” promises to offer answers. It builds upon the concept of “Agrarian System” established by the French School of Human Geography to describe and understand historical rural landscapes, but aims at reconciling this mainly descriptive approach with a more action oriented output, where the critical attitude towards the notion of “development” is central.

This contribution, whose spirit is more experimental and programmatic than assertive and conclusive, aims at testing the potential of such approach against three case studies: the Fascist reclamation of the Pontine Marshes, the early Zionist agricultural colonisation of Palestine, the Francoist internal colonisation of Spain. In doing so, it will explore the possible outcomes in terms of setting up an agenda for acting within such Modernist Rural Landscapes, rather than only describing them.
2C • MAPPING MODERNIST RURAL LANDSCAPES: SPECULATIVE APPROACHES
CHAIRS: Joaquim Flores & Hannes Palang

11.15 - 13.00
Tuesday 12 June 2018
Estonian National Museum
Helmi Kurrik Auditorium

39 The Krushchkevka and the Dom Kultura: Urban Lifestyles in a Rural Setting
Oksana Zhukova (Estonian University of Life Sciences); Simon Bell (Estonian University of Life Sciences)

38 A Landscape of Lies: Soviet Maps in Estonia
Martti Veldi (Estonian University of Life Sciences); Simon Bell (Estonian University of Life Sciences)

26 Making a Literature Review and a Critical Bibliography About the Case Study of New Towns in Agro Pontino
Emanuela Margione (Politecnico di Milano)

5 Rurality, Ruins and Archives. Mapping the Architectural History of the Greek Countryside
Afroditi Maragkou (University of Thessaly)
Collectivisation in the Soviet Union, including the Baltic States, involved many aspects related to living conditions and architecture. One of the dominant images of village centres in Estonia and Latvia is that of the standardised urban forms of blocks of flats and other buildings such as schools and administrative buildings. On collectivisation, new village centres arose, promising “Urban lifestyles in a rural setting”. There are very few designs for blocks of flats – standardisation came in with Krushchev and the first generation of flats built of white brick became known as “Krushchevki”. Alongside these were buildings to serve as places where the new Soviet cultural activities could take place – the “Dom Kultura” which, in contrast to the standard flats, was often of a special one-off design. These can often be found to be abandoned and derelict nowadays, since they have no function and represented the Soviet regime. The objective of this study was to examine the plans and initial proposals for several kolkhoz centres and, using computer aided-design, to recreate 3D models of the building ensemble as it was originally planned, to compare this to what was actually built and to what remains now and the extent to which they are still used. We found that while the standard flats were built according to plan, external landscape features were often omitted. The unique designs of the culture houses often contained many interesting Modernist or even post-modernist features but changed during construction and were often built of poor materials and finishes. They were vandalised, robbed of materials and are now abandoned in many cases. Their architects often went on to make a post-Soviet career and there is considerable interest in their designs. They represent a lost legacy of the period.
A LANDSCAPE OF LIES: SOVIET MAPS IN ESTONIA
Simon Bell Martti Veldi

Maps have long been used as a means of defining borders, recording land ownership, resources, estimating tax-gathering potential and for defensive purposes. Many national mapping agencies originated as arms of the military. When a new regime takes over a country it may decide to prepare its own set of maps – not least for defensive purposes – and to restrict who has access to these maps. When the Soviet Union occupied the Baltic States in 1945 – and these became front-line areas during the Cold War, with large areas devoted to military installations and border zones – a whole new set of maps were created. We took a sample of maps of Estonia from the inter-war years and from the period of political and military occupation from 1945-1991 for study and comparison.

The Soviet army maps became freely available in the post-Soviet period and studying them and comparing them with the older maps reveals the way the land was perceived. Military maps were produced using different projections and scales, especially regarding the topography and other features relevant for military operations. The maps included deliberate mistakes and if publicly available they contained many blank spaces to hide sensitive areas and to pretend they did not exist. The use of language – converting names and symbols into Russian, for example, also indicates a takeover of the land since the new masters were from Russia. We also found that maps played a key role in planning future landscapes – kolkhoz maps showed extensive drainage systems, new roads and settlements, which often existed on paper but were never realised. Furthermore, we came across maps with ambitious plans for the future - amalgamations of smaller kolkhozes for example, with time horizons of several decades. The maps reveal an ideological landscape superimposed on the older traditional one.
This literature review intends to focus on how the new settlements system of Agro Pontino, newly designed in a geographic area contiguous to the capital city and directly connected to the integral reclamation project elaborated by the agricultural economist Arrigo Serpieri starting from 1923, is narrated.

The reclamation of Agro Pontino is one of the most important territorial transformation carried out by Fascism under direct public control. Also, this case study is particularly significant due to the relationship between the capital city, Rome, as large urban centre, the new medium size cities, the villages and the morphological structure of agricultural holdings, into a historical context where the concept of agricultural property is defined. That’s why today we have an enormous number of books, paper and documents written in different historical period that can help us to under-
stand the evolution of the Italian’s New Towns. But at the same time the high number of these information can also make it difficult the understanding of the project and its meaning through the time. The aim of this paper is, therefore, to explain how to draft a critical bibliography able to show the evolution of the reclamation project and the construction of new towns and the changing in time of its meaning. Also, thanks to this bibliography it’s possible to extract the main issues related to the Italian case study as the relationship between the existing landscape and the network of roads; the relationship between the plans for villages, towns and the architectural features of the new settlements, and at the end, the role of public buildings as a system of public facilities promoting new behaviours patterns, and their bold modernist architecture symbolized the conquest of the land.
What remains unexamined and undervalued in the Greek landscape, are the extreme and abandoned limits of the small non-metropolitan regional areas. In these limits of Greek cities we can identify a great dispersion, a marginal instability, states of transition and deposition. The architectural and planning policies of the Greek state, through the modernistic period, have set a significant number of traces on the rural part of the country. These traces on the countryside, can only be recorded and historically analyzed through systematic approach and subjective mapping, such as the methodology of oral history promotes. The landscape of the lowlands of Thessaly is selected as a paradigm of a changing reality, where one can see and recognize a number of exemplary transformations and specificities. The resettlement phenomenon of the mountain populations in Karditsa region, which was affected by the reclamation infrastructure of the 1960s (construction of Megdova dam), is the springboard for a dispersion of new residential settlements in the lowlands. This relocation process had a significant impact on the transformation of the rural landscape of Thessaly, as well as on the social life of the countryside.

The architectural and historical research is motivated from the current ruin condition of these promising residential settlements on the countryside of Thessaly and systematically examines the policies that lead from the construction of Megdova dam to these abandoned traces on the landscape. The methodology of this research is based on an ongoing interdisciplinary archive, including oral testimonies, historical sources, state documents, blueprints and other official recordings, which are able to compose and interpret the architectural, topological and social history of these modernistic interventions on the countryside of Thessaly.
3A • MODERNIST RURALITIES BETWEEN REPRESENTATIONS AND PROPAGANDA
CHAIRS: Rute Figueiredo & Michele Tenzon

16.00 - 17.45
Tuesday 12 June 2018
Estonian National Museum
Jakob Hurt Hall

2 The Built Memory: the Colonization Villages in Spain by the Newsreel of State NO-DO
Josefina González Cubero (University of Valladolid); Alba Zarza Arribas (University of Valladolid)

41 Five-Year Plan in Four: Kolkhoz Propaganda in Film and Documentaries
Martti Veldi (Estonian University of Life Sciences); Friedrich Kuhlmann (Estonian University of Life Sciences); Simon Bell (Estonian University of Life Sciences)

44 “Forward to the Bright Future of Socialism!”: the Role of Images and Symbols in Promoting Collectivization in Soviet Ukraine
Oksana Zhukova (Estonian University of Life Sciences)

5 The Jewish Farmer, the Village and the World Fair - Politics, Propaganda, and the “Israel in Palestine” Pavilion at the Paris International Exhibition of 1937
Tzafrir Fainholtz (Technion-Israel Institute of Technology)
The newsreel of State used to show to Spanish society a determined image of architecture, conditioned by the political needs of Franco’s Regime. In this case, the subject of the cinematographic image of villages of colonization of the Tagus valley as presented by the NO-DO newsreel (Noticiarios y Documentales Cinematográficos) is studied. NO-DO was originally created as a propaganda tool and an instrument for the diffusion of “specially relevant” news from that time period. The analysis of the architecture built by the National Institute of Colonization (INC) and showed in different editions of the newsreel allowed us to understand the ideological approach made by the Regime to the Spanish countryside, through the model of colonization of the territory, and how building was used as propaganda. The urban model proposed was defined by civic centres –usually square-shaped-, and church towers as urban milestones set in the landscape. For this reason, politic demonstrations in the representative public spaces of villages, through the delivering of houses and rural property to settlers, incorporated the context and living conditions in which new villages were built. At the same time, the visits to irrigation farms, new irrigation canals, and hydraulic and hydroelectric infrastructures exemplify the agrarian and irrigation policies during the autarchy, whereas in the next decades, and because of the economic and social development of the countryside, news about reservoirs were just referred to sports and leisure activities. Therefore, these cinematographic images of buildings, irrigation policies and the modernization of rural landscape presented in cinemas through the NO-DO newsreel are relevant, since they build a collective memory of the architecture and engineering of that time. They also document the social, politic and economic role that the creation of Spanish villages of colonization at river basins had, specifically in one of the biggest rivers, the Tagus.


FIVE-YEAR PLAN IN FOUR: KOLKHOZ PROPAGANDA IN FILM AND DOCUMENTARIES
Martti Veldi Friedrich Kuhlmann Simon Bell

Five-year plan in four: kolkhoz propaganda in film and documentaries

In 1951 the first colour film in was produced Soviet Estonia– Valgus Koordis (“Light in Koordi village”). This never-before-seen medium applied effective ideological symbols to visualise the power of collective effort with the scope of difficulties building up the new life in a freshly established collective farm (kolkhoz). It was straightforward propaganda to demonstrate that in spite of difficulties, collective farming was the only correct way to achieve prosperity in the countryside. The theme of the film was to show the goodness of Stalinist improvements in a poor post-war rural community at the end of the 1940s. In a very simple manner, topics such as nationalism, the class struggle, socialist ideology, kulaks, collective ownership, mechanisation of agriculture and large-scale land improvements were presented. To capture the wider audience and to increase social impact, the film also starred the rising opera star Georg Ots, still considered as one of the greatest Estonian opera singers ever. In addition to ideologically charged films, a type of propagandist short documentary, the ringvaade (newsreel) was produced in Soviet Estonia. These concentrated on various aspects of Soviet lifestyle, aiming to demonstrate the achievements of collective ideology, and the high mo-
role of the Soviet working class. We studied these and other examples in order to examine the range of themes and motifs presented in them, focusing on the ideological impact on the rural landscape caused by mechanisation, forest management and land melioration. What is revealed is an attempt to persuade the new kolkhozniki (collective farmers) of the benefits of the new system – which, ironically, had dispossessed many of them of their own farms which they had built up in the inter-war years (and which were restored to them after the collapse of the Soviet system in the 1990s).
“FORWARD TO THE BRIGHT FUTURE OF SOCIALISM!": THE ROLE OF IMAGES AND SYMBOLS IN PROMOTING COLLECTIVIZATION IN SOVIET UKRAINE

Oksana Zhukova

In every country state symbols such as the national flag, emblem, and national anthems represent the independence and sovereignty of the state. In the Soviet Union as well as in other autocratic states symbols also played an important role in propaganda, influencing peoples’ attitudes to the actions of the state at all levels. These symbols could also be found, together with powerful imagery in posters, on buildings, monuments and many other things visible and incorporated in the routine life the people. Ukraine has huge historical heritage of symbolism and propaganda from when the country was a major part of the USSR. After the creation of the USSR a political, socio-economic, cultural and spiritual experiment on the construction of a communist society, which in the case of Ukraine was unprecedented in scale and tragedy, began. The collectivization of the village is one of the most tragic pages in the history of Ukraine. As the most important grain-growing region of the country at the time its production was vital to feed the growing cities and industrialisation. The forced collectivisation led to starvation in the 1930s and millions of people died. In order to counter this most public information showed people another side of collectivization. Propaganda was used, such as posters and slogans, to persuade the peasants to join the collective farms and to promote the real or fictitious results of the workers, and, conversely, to attack people who did not want to believe in the "bright future" of the USSR and to denounce "kulaks" and "saboteurs". Materials from archives and published sources show many examples of Ukrainian images and symbols of that time which shed a light on the way the collectivisation process was portrayed and promoted.
In the Paris international Exhibition of 1937, a few steps from the pavilions of Nazi Germany and of the USSR, the Yeshuv (Palestine’s Jewish Zionist community) had its own venue, the «Israel in Palestine» pavilion. Initiated by Zionist organizations the pavilion was a Hybrid of modernist and traditional architecture, its front a modernist building of white concrete and glass, its rear modeled in the spirit of Palestine’s rural vernacular architecture with arches and terrace, reminiscent of the Arab villages. The exhibition inside the building depicted the achievements of the Zionist Jewish resettlement project in Palestine, presenting the birth of a new society of farmers and manual labors as manifestations of a new, advanced society.

Stating that the rural resettlement will solve the so called «Jewish question» the pavilion was part of wider orchestrated effort, in the 1930’s, to disseminate the story of the Zionist movement cooperative rural settlements, the Kibbutz, and the Moshav, as a mean to gain support for the movement’s activities in Palestine. an effort which involved international professional journals such as the French journal l’Architecture-d’aujourd’hui, writers such as Julius Posener, planners such as Richard Kauffmann, and international architectural organization such as RIA (Réunions internationals d’architectes).

The paper will present how the world fair, the architectural media and the international organization were used by the Zionist establishment in the 1930’s as a tool for promoting the idea of the rural resettlement in Palestine, at a period when the rise of antisemitism in Europe made the question of Jewish resettlement outside of the continent critical. Based on new archive materials, contemporary publications, and architectural drawings and plans it will present how the image of the rural settlement, as a depiction of social and national reform, was used to present the new village as a manifest of modernity.
3B • MODERNIST RURAL PLANNING: CULTURAL AND PHYSICAL LEGACIES
CHAIRS: Jacques Teller & Miguel Moreira Pinto

16.00 - 17.45
Tuesday 12 June 2018
Estonian National Museum
Aliise Moor Auditorium

3 Issues and Strategies for Conservation of Artificial Water System of Hongcun, China
Tingshen Li (Politecnico di Milano)

33 Learning from the Douar. Michel Écochard and the Modern Invention of the Semi-Rural Moroccan Habitat
Edoardo L. G. Bernasconi (Independent scholar)

35 The Safeguard of a Rural Landscape and of its Use. Study on the Western-South of Lazio (Italy)
Nora Lombardini (Politecnico di Milano)
3 ISSUES AND STRATEGIES FOR CONSERVATION OF ARTIFICIAL WATER SYSTEM OF HONGCUN, CHINA
Tingshen Li

Since 2012, the China Government has proposed the preservative concept of “Traditional Village” in order to conserve the heritages within the village-scale Historic Center throughout China which are profoundly influenced by the modernization. However, subject to the limitations of awareness, the conservation to the “Traditional Village” only focuses on the historic buildings within the Historic Center, while there is a lack of focus on equally valuable cultural landscapes, open spaces and environments. Hongcun Traditional Village is chosen as the case study of this article, which is with the focus on the conservation of the remarkable artificial water systems. The article aims to discuss the impacts and issues caused by the local conservation policies and practical interventions to Hongcun’s artificial water system in the nearly 20 years, and attempt to propose the provisional methodology approach and treatment solutions for the conservation of Hongcun’s artificial water system, which is mainly based on the European experiences.
At the end of WWII, after roughly thirty years of French colonial-ism, Morocco was facing a tremendous economic boom, but also an alarming rural exodus to the industrial cities on the coast which, in turn, had to deal with overpopulation and the phenomenon of the bidonvilles. At first, the article retraces the studies on traditional Moroccan urban, semi-rural, and rural settlements, carried out by Michel Écochard’s Service de l’Urbanisme from 1957 to 1951. Learning from local dwelling customs, the Service conceived a modern urban block model aimed at bringing wholesomeness to urban bidonvilles, as well as modernity in the countryside to stem the migrations. The essay then analyses the Service’s typological studies on the courtyard housing unit, the basic cell of the urban fabric, and compares this with analogous coeval designs, influenced by Écochard’s ideas, realized both in Morocco and worldwide. The final goal is to form a genealogy of architectural designs that, reinterpreting form time to time the courtyard house, can show the existence of a direct relationship between rural landscape, dwelling modes, and modern architecture.
THE SAFEGUARD OF A RURAL LANDSCAPE AND OF ITS USE. STUDY ON THE WESTERN-SOUTH OF LAZIO (ITALY)
Nora Lombardini

The paper analyses the policy of the preservation and enhancement (from the economic point of view) of the rural landscape in the western-south of Lazio, and especially in the territory of Agro Pontino.

The final act of the reclaimed land, during the Fascism, was realized with the development of the main preservation laws on what, nowadays, is defined as “cultural heritage” but, at that time, was described as “things of historical and artistic interests” and “natural beauties”.

The development of the policy of the Italian preservation went in parallel with a deep interest on the rural world, representing the base of the national economy.

The paper starts from the Italian liberal policy of the first decade of the XX Cent., considering the maturing attention on the Italian territory between the needs of the economic emergencies (and the rural settlement planning) and the necessary attention of the land management.

The investigation on the interaction of the economic interests with the cultural (and political) necessity of the safeguard of the national territory must underline the role of public and private interests, and their influence, on the use of the territories and on the realization of the marshes of the Agro Pontino, a new reclaimed geographical area, very close the beautiful land of the ancient Vulcan of Lazio (nowadays “Parco dei Castelli Romani”).

The investigation on the interaction of the economic interests with the cultural (and political) necessity of the safeguard of the national territory must underline the role of public and private interests, and their influence on the use of the territories and on the realization of the marshes of the Agro Pontino, a new reclaimed geographical area, very close the beautiful land of the ancient Vulcan of Lazio (nowadays “Parco dei Castelli Romani”) and distributed along the ancient “via Appia”.

The article is mainly based on a bibliographic research and on documents from archives.

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Ortensi D., La grande bonifica fascista dell’Agro pontino, Roma, “Il lavoro fascista”, 1932
Pompei M., Nasce la famiglia colonica: esperienze pontine bonifica dei beni collettivi, Roma, 1933 (?)
Piccioni L., Il volto amato della Patria. Il primo movimento per la protezione della natura in Italia (1880-1934), a single-subject number of the Journal “L’uomo e l’ambiente”, n. 32, Università degli studi di Camerino, 1999
3C • MAKING AND PRESERVING MODERNIST RURAL HERITAGE
CHAIRS: Caroline Rolka & Marta Lalanda Prista

16.00 - 17.45
Tuesday 12 June 2018
Estonian National Museum
Helmi Kurrik Auditorium

56 Keep Out! No Entry! Exploring the Soviet Military Landscape of the Coast of Estonia
Ann-Leena Miller (Estonian University of Life Sciences); Simon Bell (Estonian University of Life Sciences)

79 Modern Rural Landscapes in Contemporary Heritage Imaginaries: The Case of Germany’s Southern Oderbruch
Emily Bereskin (Université Libre de Bruxelles / Technische Universität Berlin)

9 Towards the Contemporary Development of Modern Architecture Inherited from the Fascist Regime. The City of Sabaudia.
Constance Ringon (École Nationale Supérieure d’Architecture de Toulouse (ENSA Toulouse))

Laura Ingerpuu (Estonian Academy of Arts)
During the Soviet occupation of 1945-1991, Estonia became a Soviet Republic and was cut off from open contact with the Western world. The Estonian coastline was now the outer border of the Soviet Union and part of the Iron Curtain. On the coast of the Baltic Sea this was less visible than in some places (e.g. the Berlin wall), but the military control was no less restrictive. The coastal areas were under military control and accessible only with special permits – so often the inhabitants had to leave and their homes were taken over by the Soviet military or abandoned. Military installations also marked the Soviet security zone. There was a massive construction programme of artillery defensive positions along the coastline. As the last Soviet troops left Estonia in 1994, the Soviet military installations were left to the Estonian Republic. Most were stripped of anything useful and abandoned. Many of these objects or complexes are still visible in the landscape but most are forgotten and ruined. They are not yet seen as a part of Estonian heritage and are fast disappearing. A study of a section of the NE coast of Estonia has identified a military landscape along with the former closed city of Sillamäe (where uranium was refined). Mapping of the defence structures, assessment of their condition and their visible presence reveals a distinctive military landscape alongside collectivised agriculture, where residential quarters, roads and communications formed a unique complex. Interviews with local residents reveal how the zone and the restrictions were ever present in their lives and generally they are not interested in them or their preservation; younger interviewees with no memory view the remains as curiosities; there is the beginning of interest in them as part of a “dissonant heritage”.

Examining the region of the Southern Oderbruch, this paper investigates the presence and representation of the modern rural landscapes of the German Democratic Republic within the region’s contemporary heritage and tourism landscape. Following a situational analysis of institutions, initiatives, and extant discourse production, the paper argues that although the unique landscapes developed in concert with the collective farms (landwirtschaftliche Produktionsgenossenschaften-LPG) of the GDR remain very much in situ, the history of the LPG remains largely invisible in the heritage and touristic representation of the Oderbruch, which tends to focus on more traditional manifestations of “pastoral beauty,” as well as on historical events and daily life preceding the founding of the GDR.

This paper first identifies several reasons for this conspicuous absence, some of which concern larger structural issues, while others reflect the particularity of regional memory culture; these include: ongoing legal disputes, a planning focus that prioritizes the LPG’s adaptive re-use over heritagization, and a longer pattern of erasure of GDR history in Germany’s heritage landscape. Moreover, the paper argues that local historical interest is primarily focused on precisely those elements eradicated or diminished by the LPGs. This range of factors highlights the complexity of the situational landscape surrounding the production of heritage, in terms of political, economic, social and symbolic aspects.

The final section of the paper examines a selection of contemporary initiatives, including the TRAFO – Model for Culture in Transition project led by the German Ministry of Culture and the network European Cultural Heritage Oderbruch in order to analyse how through the creation of broader institutional networks, local actors are currently working to create a new narrative agency and identity for the region.
The creation of the city of Sabaudia falls under the context of the sanitation of the Pontine Marshes, carried out by the Italian fascist regime. It responds to the organization of a rural territory, previously non-exploitable.

This symposium explores the «re-invention» of Sabaudia, through the reconsideration of its plan and its buildings from the 1970s. The recent conservation practices, preservation and restoration of this modern inheritance will be studied. Indeed, a lack of knowledge led to the modification or the destruction of some buildings. We will review how these attempts to consider the legacies of Italian history were met with refusal in the 1970s and 1980s compared to 2000s, when heritage-making policy was enacted to promote the city.

The political question resurfaces here: is patrimonialization allowed to give to these architectures, resulting from a totalitarian regime, a recognition incompatible with their political origin?

The presentation of some renovation/restoration operations will highlight several questions regarding the modern aesthetics, the relation to landscape, uses and techniques.
Comparing the socialist rural architecture of the Baltic States: the past and the future of the administrative-cultural centres of collective farms
Laura Ingerpuu

Collectivisation of agriculture in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania was a drastic change that shaped rural built landscapes of the Baltic countries for five decades. Although Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania have been independent states, and collective farming has been abolished for almost thirty years now, the physical legacy of collective farms still exists. This paper examines what are the present processes in terms of preservation and valorisation of collective farm architectural heritage in the Baltic States. The focus of the analysis is on the administrative-cultural buildings of the collective farms, mainly built in the 1970s and 1980s, which represent the modernist and postmodernist rural architectural gems. I compare the context of the establishment of the administrative-cultural centres in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania as well as developments in reuse and protection of these buildings after the abolishment of collective farming. I also analyse today’s situation in terms of acceptance of this socialist legacy as a meaningful part of the history. My study is based on the field work in the relevant countries, available literature and data, and interviews conducted with the heritage conservation experts and researchers in this field.
4A • TAMING NATURE

CHAIRS: Gerhard Ermischer & Martti Veldi

9.30 - 10.45
Wednesday 13 June 2018
Estonian National Museum
Jakob Hurt Hall

36 Landscape and National Imaginary: The Role of National Parks in the Formations of National Belonging in Turkey
Asya Ece Uzmay (Kadir Has University)

58 Modern Ruralscape and Contemporary Ideology. The Case of the Pontine Plain
Annalisa Metta (Roma Tre University); Davide Onorati (Independent scholar)

80 “Nature Caprices are Finally Defeated!”: Reclamation Politics and Practices in Latvia During the Era of Modernism
Anita Zariņa (University of Latvia); Ivo Vinogradovs (University of Latvia)
When the National Park idea first enacted from the USA, it was promoted as the ownership of the landscape for the use of the nation while emphasizing the national identity through nature. As a latecomer idea for Turkey, this paper follows an excerpt from the journey of National Parks in Turkey with the focus on 1950 to 1975 in the creation of the national identity through nature. In this paper, I discuss the National Parks as another form of constructing national identity through the transformative power of modernism in the countryside. With the focus on different National Parks from Turkey, I interrogate the place of these so-called pristine and primitive lands in the construction of national identity through different forms. Under the threat of neo-liberal economic policies and the division between nature and human strengthen, now, this delimited piece of nature deserves more attention.
MODERN RURALSCAPE AND CONTEMPORARYIDEOLOGY. THE CASE OF THE PONTINE PLAIN
Annalisa Metta Davide Onorati

The new pattern of water-meadows and water-lines

The Pontine Plain exemplifies the controversial shift from the Modernism attempt to radically reshape the landscape and the likewise radical coming back to bare nature of recent decades. The wildest European landscape extended very close to Rome for many centuries, until the Fascist Swamps Battle invented the Agro Pontino. Recently, marshes spots have been recreated as plant-based sewage-treatment facilities, mimicking natural plots into the Thirties’ grid. So, while the Fascist remediation deleted the swamp ecological thickness, lately no less doctrinal positions plead the atonement of its ecocide.

Today the Plain is a huge farming area, undergoing changing: wetlands sometimes emerge through the grid of roads and Eucalyptus-lines, side by side the farm fields, dotted with industrial plants and weekend-homes’ resort, while local people use canals and floodable areas for leisure time, suggesting unpredictable new rural/urban/wild public spaces. How can we deal with this dynamic landscape and combine rural fruitfulness, historical heritage, ecological culture and new ways of living? We propose a general strategy, inspired by the Italian ancient agricultural practice named marcite, and introduce productive wetlands, combining: the bold Thirties’ layout with wetlands wig-wag; the farm production with new social behaviors; the historical identity with ecological process. The aim is overcoming the cliché of dualistic opposition (water/land, marshes/farming, settlements/wilderness) in favor of coexistence, overlapping, simultaneity, negotiation.
“NATURE CAPRICES ARE FINALLY DEFEATED!”: RECLAMATION POLITICS AND PRACTICES IN LATVIA DURING THE ERA OF MODERNISM
Anita Zariņa
Ivo Vinogradovs

Soviet agro-polders, as ideological and highly technological assemblies, were among the first to signify the productivism era in the rural landscape of Baltic republics and the modernisation of Soviet agriculture there (Zariņa et al., 2018). Such large land conversion ventures, although petty compared with the transformations of nature elsewhere in the Soviet Union, were employed for the first time in the region.

The establishment of polders took place during two different periods of Soviet agricultural developments. The first phase occurred as part of Khrushchev’s reforms, whereas the second was implemented under Brezhnev’s reclamation programme. Whereas the former was linked to recovery from stagnant Stalinist schemes by improving the conditions of marginal areas and poor collective farms, the latter, in the context of Latvia and the other Baltic Republics, entailed extensive works on what was called the ‘northern strategy of drainage, liming and so on’ (Gustafson, 1981, p. 10). Establishment of agro-polders (a total of approximately 50 000 ha) was greatly expanded from 1966 onwards when the Central Committee of the Communist Party adopted a decree for drainage works to be done with national funding (i.e. from Moscow). Building on case studies, wider political contexts and local situations, the paper traces the formation of agro-polders and unfolds the various practices of the Soviet agricultural ideology in action.

4B • MAPPING MODERNIST RURAL LANDSCAPES:
SHIFTING LAND USES AND PATTERNS
CHAIRS: Hannes Palang & Aleksa Korolija

9.30 - 10.45
Wednesday 13 June 2018
Estonian National Museum
Aliise Moor Auditorium

73  Historical GIS: Application of Map-based Biography to the Laeva Sovkhoz/State Farm, Estonia
Martti Veldi (Estonian University of Life Sciences); Simon Bell (Estonian University of Life Sciences)

30  Building the Modernist Rural Landscape in the Salazar’s Regime. The Agricultural Colony of Boalhosa
Paolo Marcolin (Escola Superior Artística do Porto - ESAP); Isabel Matias (Escola Superior Artística do Porto - ESAP); Joaquim Flores (Escola Superior Artística do Porto - ESAP)

40  Soviet Era Landscape Change and the Post-Soviet Legacy in Latvia
Bell Simon (Estonian University of Life Sciences); Olgerts Nikodemus (University of Latvia); Zanda Peneze (University of Latvia); Imants Kruze (University of Latvia)
In the MODSCAPES project the concept of historical GIS is one of the practical research tools to detect, map, and analyse large-scale landscape changes caused by modernist rural development schemes. Historical GIS enables us to synthesise human interactions with their surrounding landscape on temporal and spatial axes.

In this paper historical GIS is applied to create a map-based biography of one of the case study examples, Laeva, which was a collective state farm or sovkhoz in South Estonia between 1975 and 1993. Through combining historical maps and archival data we followed the process of collectivisation in Laeva.

The Laeva sovkhoz was a result of nearly 30 years of error and trial in collective farming, which in the area started with the establishment of seven small kolkhozes in 1948 and 1949. In the 1950s the small kolkhozes were amalgamated into larger and more effective agricultural units. After several mergers and reorganisation of production, in 1975 the sovkhoz of Laeva was established. In the second half of the 1970s the sovkhoz became an experimental cattle and pig breeding research institute of the Estonian Agricultural Academy.

We also compared the land use dynamics of the area before, during, and after the collectivisation. The results showed that during the collectivisation the pressure to cultivate land was intensified, and through extensive meutiluation wetlands were drained, and forested.
30 BUILDING THE MODERNIST RURAL LANDSCAPE IN THE SALAZAR’S REGIME. THE AGRICULTURAL COLONY OF BOALHOSA
Paolo Marcolin Isabel Matias Joaquim Flores

The construction of the modernist rural landscape in Portugal bears the mark of the Junta de Colonização Interna, an institution created ad hoc in 1936 by the regime led by Salazar. The colonies which were actually completed and whose original structures remain until today, are not only regarded as statements of a relatively recent past, but above all, as more or less singular experiences that, having assumed the assumptions of modernity, have sought to establish continuity with certain aspects of landscape and vernacular architecture. This research is included in the Portuguese case studies of the Modscapes project, aiming to test the methodology proposed for the analysis of the physical legacies of these colonies, applying it on the Agricultural Colony of Boalhosa. The methodology combines GIS and mapping analysis, covering several layers of information embarking natural and anthropogenic spatial data which allow to understand the landscape transformation since the settlement of the colony, accordingly with the concept of historical GIS (Gregory and Healey, 2007). Concurrently, a fieldwork survey was conducted to identify the current Colony’s physical legacy, recurring to the methods of visual perception and integrative approach (Bell,
2012). From the analysis undertaken it was verified that this constitutes an extraordinary and paradigmatic example of the construction of the Portuguese Modernist Rural Landscape. This Colony, planned from a political idea aiming to promote an ideology of agrarian reform through scientific and technical knowledge applied to hydraulic, agronomic and social interventions (Silva 2011), gave way to a rural landscape deeply marked by those values of identity, rurality and order advocated by the regime (Guerreiro, 2016). From the reading of the structure and landscape image of this colony, it was verified that these legacies were accomplished through the use of an autonomous design methodology, which considers the local culture and respects both the morphological and physiographic characteristics of the existing site, leading to the creation of modern landscapes strongly tied to the local identities.

The collectivisation of agriculture and the development and application of land improvement “melioration” programmes and technologies, as well as the construction of kolkhoz centres during the Soviet era in Latvia was extensive and has a legacy on the post-Soviet landscape and agricultural economy. A study of a number of rural municipalities in different landscape types, through the comparison of maps from the early 20th century with those from around 2000, and one example with maps from the 1960s and 1990s, together with field work, revealed the degree of change that had taken place. In particular, there was a significant increase in forest – despite the kolkhoz system being targeted at increasing agricultural outputs, a reduction in the number of farmsteads – in some places this was a result of land battles in the Second World war - and
a concentration of residences in villages and widespread drainage of marshes, wetlands and wetter forest. Village centres with concentrations of blocks of flats, storage sheds and industrial units were developed. After 1991 and the restitution of land to the original owners or their descendants, large numbers of kolkhoz agricultural buildings, old estate buildings and some residential blocks became redundant and abandoned. Some of the farmland was also abandoned. The sampled areas show different amounts of landscape change and all showed large numbers of ruined buildings scattered around the area. The question of what to do with these, many of which are robbed of anything useful, vandalised and possibly causing pollution remains open, even after 25 or more years.
5A • MODERNIST RURAL PLANNING: 
ANTECEDENTS, COPYCATS & MAVERICKS 
CHAIRS: Alexandra Cardoso & Axel Fisher 

11.15 - 13.00 
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32 Rural Development in Belarus. “Agrogorodok”: Between Rural and Urban? 
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67 Igniting Social Changes via New Agricultural Settlements in the Great Hungarian Plain at the End of the 18th Century 
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17 Tessenei (1905-1941): Intensive Farming Shaping Landscape and Social Relations in Colonial Eritrea 
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46 The Rural Super City: Central Lancashire New Town 
Victoria Jolley (Manchester School of Architecture)
RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN BELARUS.
“AGROGORODOK”: BETWEEN RURAL AND URBAN?
Liudmila Slivinskaya

The article will explore a phenomenon of “agrogorodok” originated and implemented as state policy of rural revitalization in former soviet country of Belarus beginning with 2005-2010 State Programmeme for Rural Revival & Development and continuing in further 5-years programmeme up till now.

The term “agrogorodok” is defined as a new type of rural settlement which features public facilities, industrial, social and transport infrastructures to ensure a high (here: compared to urban) standard of living for its residents and residents of adjacent territories [1]. Wherein in terms of population it remains well below the size of a town and belongs to the lowest level of rural settlements. Currently over 1500 such settlements have been created (against targeted number of 1481 till 2010 as set in [1]).

The article is to assess critically the policy against the so-called heroic tradition of modernist thinking to reform way of living via large-scale top-down state-led planning projects combining affordable housing, built public infrastructure as applied to declining rural areas. Further, for the current discourse on territorial development is focused almost exclusively on urbanisation, such specific approach targeting rural while having in its core the idea of some sort of urbanisation (understood as approaching urban standard of living in rural areas) is needed to be conceptualised to find its place in addressing and reinventing rurality in urban world. Such invention of a new type aiming at reconciling urban and rural is to be defined and conceptualised as a contribution into typology. The historical context of post-soviet country where continued aggressive state intervention into inter alia rural areas had produced distinct configurations of rural settlements in their transition from traditional to modern enriches as well such exploration of transformative power of ideologies / policy towards landscape. The article tracing almost 15 years of policy implementation reveals yet one more failed promise of salvation grinning through the gap between concept and its real appearance. Methods: policy analysis, spatial analysis, typological analysis.

IGNITING SOCIAL CHANGES VIA NEW AGRICULTURAL SETTLEMENTS IN THE GREAT HUNGARIAN PLAIN AT THE END OF THE 18TH CENTURY
Kristof Fatsar

In the wake of the Ottoman occupation of the Kingdom of Hungary’s large central territories at the end of the 17th century, vast parts of the country remained scarcely populated. Enhancing the Hungarian peasantry’s social conditions via creating new ideal villages and using the regulations of Empress Maria Theresa’s (1740-1780) Urbarium decree (1767) were in the centre of the agricultural and social reformer Samuel Tessedik’s (1784) thinking (see attached illustration). He has eyed up the yet largely unpopulated southern strip of the country that was governed by the military to implement his ideas.

Large parts of this region, the Banat, were not favourable due to marshlands or drifting sand. For this reason, the region was an experimental ground for other agricultural reformers, one of whom was the almost entirely forgotten Coblenz-born engineer and landscape designer Rudolph Witsch, the author of a treatise (Witsch, 1809) that was not only concerned about turning the region to profitable agriculture, but also proposing the layout of an ideal village as the core of the newly acquired agricultural lands.
Despite the similar geographic destination of Tessedik’s and Witsch’s village plans, there has been no attempt to link their ideas or reveal their similarities and differences. Although the colonisation of the Banat was eventually undertaken with planned villages (Roth, 1988), it is yet unclear whether even the locally employed Witsch’s publication played a role in this process at all. This paper investigates the connection between the village designs of Tessedik and Witsch and compares them to other new agricultural settlements of the country to discover the pattern of new Hungarian village design at the end of the 18th century.


Theschedik [Tessedik], S. (1784), Der Landmann in Ungarn, was er ist, und was er seyn könnte; nebst einem Plane von einem regulirten Dorfe. [Pest:] Tessedik.

In the early 20th century, the agrarian policies of the Colonial Government in Eritrea moved from the promotion of Italian family homesteads on the highlands to the exploitation of wide semi-arid areas in the lowlands; in particular, the surroundings of Tessenei, close to the Sudanese border, for its geomorphological and hydrographic features, were appropriate for a wide intensive plantation of cotton. Here, in 1905, the most meaningful intervention of colonial agrarian valorization in Eritrea was being planned, but it was realigned at the end of the Twenties. Barriers, embankments, canals and drains caused then a radical change in the landscape, imposing a severe geometry over 10,000 hectares of smoothly corrugated lands around the Gash River. Production activities were mainly based on salaried local workers: this had a dramatic impact on traditional culture and social relations, stressed by the fact that, in a short while, migration from Sudan and Ethiopia was encouraged. By analyzing the main features of the spatial organization designed in Tessenei, an attempt to outline the relation between the colonial government and local cultural system will be made; the comprehension of this relation would be important to understand the legacies of the project and its potentialities at present.
The Rural Supercity: Central Lancashire New Town

Victoria Jolley

From 1950 rural Lancashire, in England, became the focus of a major renewal scheme to accommodate population overspill from nearby cities of Liverpool and Manchester. Over a period of fifteen years the initial proposal for a series of self-contained new towns progressed into an ambitious scheme for a single polycentric ‘supercity’ for 500,000 people. Known as Central Lancashire New Town and designed by RMJM, this part-realised development was the last and largest New Town designated under the 1965 Act. Its theoretical urban pattern, which followed new and proposed infrastructure, was unique. Based on a ladder system this straddled rich agricultural land and declining post-industrial townscapes to unify and expand existing settlements with the aim of generating prosperity on a sub-regional scale. CLNT was not completed but its planning phases can be traced across Lancashire’s urban and rural landscapes by built communications networks and city-scale public and civic buildings. Referencing three different new town typologies this paper will outline the project’s evolution and identify the impact that designing for the motorcar and future change had on the provision of green space. This research has been undertaken using previously ‘closed’ archival resources and architectural journal and local press articles.
5B • ENCOUNTERS BETWEEN INFRASTRUCTURES AND RURAL LANDSCAPES
CHAIRS: Caroline Rolka & Christoph Muth

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22 Re-Location: Urban and Architectural Analysis of Resettlement Practices in the Brown Coal Mining Area of Welzow-Süd in East Germany
Ess, Julia (Brandenburg University of Technology (BTU) Cottbus-Senftenberg)

37 ‘Power and the Countryside’: Power Stations, Amenity and Rural Britain
Csepely-Knorr, Luca (Manchester Metropolitan University); Coucill, Laura (Manchester Metropolitan University)

72 The Soviet Modernisation of the Public Road Landscape
Vugule, Kristine (Latvia University of Agriculture); Bell, Simon (Estonian University of Life Sciences)
With the exception of some individual buildings, the areas of residential housing constructed by the Cávado Hydroelectric Company (Hidroeléctrica do Cávado, or HICA) were not included in the debate on housing that was taking place at the time of their building, and later on were not considered worthy of any special attention. Despite their creation having been of fundamental importance to the construction and maintenance of the infrastructure of the Cávado hydroelectric scheme, from an architectural point of view these settlements only became well-known for being the location of four buildings that were designed by the architect Januário Godinho: three Pousadas and a restaurant. The participation of Godinho in the plans for the housing settlements was erratic; he collaborated on the selection of some of the fundamental characteristics of the buildings, without leaving detectable marks of his presence or a feeling of clear and defined transformation of the preliminary drawings into the finished construction. The housing settlements were the result of a merging of the expectations of management, the bureaucratic systems of the technical services department and the needs dictated by the circumstances that were encountered as the work progressed. In other words, the hydroelectric development of the Cávado was the reason for the implantation in that location of an urban structure that had been designed and produced in a technical services department based in Porto.
Since the beginning of the 20th century, more than 370 villages with a total amount of about 120,000 inhabitants have been relocated in Germany due to open-pit lignite mining. The devastation of villages and the resettlement of their inhabitants had and still has massive implications on the rural landscape and the settlement structure of the region. The planning of the relocations reflects, to a great extent, social, economic, and political change in post-war Germany, as well as development in town planning and architectural concepts. The paper focuses on the re-settlements that took place due to the surface mine of Welzow-Süd (Lusatia, southern Brandenburg), where the development of the resettlement practices of the GDR since the late 1960s and after reunification up until today can be studied in one single open-pit mine.
‘POWER AND THE COUNTRYSIDE’: POWER STATIONS, AMENITY AND RURAL BRITAIN
Luca Csepely-Knorr
Laura Coucill

Is the countryside the largest industrial landscape? Places perceived as rural are home to some spatially extensive and highly productive activities: from agriculture to electricity, rural landscapes have been demarcated and adapted to enable various forms of production and even the commodification of space itself. Whilst the ubiquitous enclosure of open land into hedged fields for agriculture is not typically perceived as synonymous with widespread industrialisation, the introduction of large, culturally visible infrastructures in the ‘natural’ landscape is often met with controversy and protective measures. [1] This was the case for major programmes to expand electrical and power generation and transmission in Britain following WWII and to protect amenity, landscape architects were appointed to assure the amenity of rural space.

Through the comparative analysis of two power stations, this paper examines how prominent landscape architects, Dame Sylvia Crowe and Derek Lovejoy, curated two contrasting countryside landscape settings. West Burton coal fired power station is located along the River Trent adjacent to largely flat, agricultural land. Trawsfynnedd nuclear power station is located in the mountainous setting of Snowdonia National Park. In both cases, the designers used the intervention of major infrastructure to enhance the existing setting and create dramatic scenes which might be considered characteristic of Burke’s expression of the sublime.[2] Their marks on the landscape challenge the idea that «industrial civilisation and beautiful landscapes are incompatible»[3] and raise the question; to what extent has the design of major power infrastructure in the post-war period contributed to the cultural identity of rural space.

Under the Soviet regime and as part of the development of the overall economy, the Latvian road infrastructure and its associated landscape went through major changes. As a result of modernisation the old roads were straightened, the historically established road routes and their surroundings were changed, new roads were planned and constructed, some elements of the road landscape disappeared and new ones emerged. Snow and wind protection hedges were planted along open stretches. With the increase of public transport many unique bus stop pavilions were built and rest areas for drivers and tourists were created. A lot of attention was paid to roadside views and aesthetics through the use of tree plantings. The aim of this study was to explore the heritage of road planning and road landscape development in Latvia during the Soviet era from 1945 to 1991. The study was based on a literature review and analyses of maps and archival materials from the Latvian road museum supported by fieldwork. Elements which are currently disappearing as the road network is upgraded through European structural funding were identified through map analyses of different time periods and a number of field studies of sample stretches of roads, between 2015 to 2018. Road infrastructure and the landscape of that time is part of the cultural heritage of the 20th century and is connected to the development of the rural economy and collectivisation as well as the military preparedness. The study uncovered a well-developed road planning and landscape design theory which was set up and applied in Latvia and used as an example for other Soviet Republics.

Andrejsons V., Svikis H. (2016) Latvijas zemes ceļi un autoceļi (Latvian gravel and autoroads). Riga (In Latvian)
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MODERNISM, MODERNISATION AND THE RURAL LANDSCAPE
abstract book and program
MODSCAPES2018 conference & Baltic Landscape Forum
Tartu, 11-13 June 2018

An event convened by: MODSCAPES & Simon Bell (EMÜ - Estonian University of Life Sciences, chair of Landscape Architecture) & Axel Fisher (TU Berlin / ULB / FNRS)

in collaboration with CIVILSCAPE (Dirk Gotzmann)

Organizers: Simon Bell (EMÜ), Friedrich Kühlmann (EMÜ), Martti Veldi (EMÜ), Oksana Zhukova (EMÜ), Ave Kongo (EMÜ), Annely Jyrimets (EMÜ), Axel Fisher (TU Berlin / ULB / FNRS)

Layout: Vittoria Capresi (TU Berlin) & Axel Fisher (TU Berlin / ULB / FNRS)

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