



The notation of life diagram reproduced from Patrick Geddes, *Cities in Evolution* (London: Williams and Norgate Ltd., 1947)

## The Collective Memory of Banja Luka

Jelena Stankovic

Banja Luka reflects on its past so that it can plan for its future. This project records the Banja Luka that only exists in plans, photographs, municipal records, the memories of its inhabitants. It is a part of a research project on collective memory and the city, which indexed the plans of Banja Luka in archives around the world, and developed a discourse on cities and memory, drawing on architectural, sociological, and psychological literature. In the Notation of Life diagram, Geddes argued that the development of the consciousness of a society mirrors the development of its built environment. The inner terms Town, School, University, City comprises the stages by which town evolves into city; the outer terms Acts, Facts, Dreams, Deeds comprise the corresponding cycle by which consciousness evolves from a consuming preoccupation with subsistence labour to reflection, to future planning, to its institution in the city, which for Geddes was the most advanced artifact of civilization. This plan of Banja Luka, which deals with reflection and planning, resides in the two bottom quadrants of Geddes diagram.

Jelena Stankovic studied architecture at the University of Banja Luka and is currently a doctoral student in Architecture at the University of Dundee, where she is completing her PhD thesis on the role of the city in the memory of its inhabitants.