

Volume III: The Geddes Institute

The City is a Thinking Machine Patrick Geddes and Cities in Evolution

Lorens Holm Deepak Gopinath Matthew Jarron

Edited by Lorens Holm and Cameron McEwan

Volume III of IV.

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Eight Exhibitors

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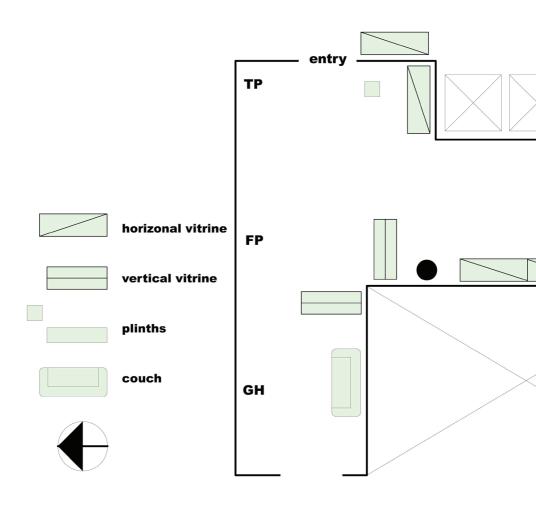
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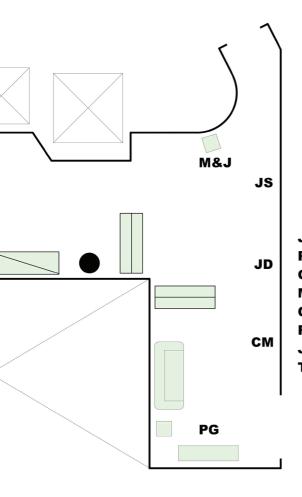
City-Regional Planning in Scotland TAYplan and Town & Regional Planning, University of Dundee

A LIFE IN BALANCE! + EVOLVE YOUR PLACE FOLK!
Tracy Mackenna & Edwin Janssen

Eight affiliates of the Geddes Institute for Urban Research at the University of Dundee contributed projects to the exhibition. The projects were installed on the gallery walls, with the Geddes archive material in the vitrines in the centre of the space. Moving counter-clockwise beginning in the southwest corner. Paul Guzzardo's video installation records a civil suit that unpacks the relation between power, intellectual property, and digital practice in the city of St. Louis. Cameron McEwan's montage drawings look at the city and society as analogues. John Dummett's montage of text and images looks at the figure of the public in political discourse. Jelena Stankovics plan studies of Banja Luka map the personal and collective memories embedded in the city fabric. The art practice of Tracy MacKenna and Edwin Janssen produced lapel buttons to orient public activists within the city. Deborah Peel with the TayPlan Strategic Planning Authority and the Dundee City Council Planning Department documented the history of Tay Valley regional planning from Geddes' time to the present waterfront plan. Fergus Purdie Architects produced a citizens' civic survey of Perth, comprising 9 A0 screen prints. Graeme Hutton and Charles Rattray produced plan studies for the commercial and residential development of the Dundee waterfront. Using different means and media, these projects treat the city as a social form and use it to think through questions of inhabitation and social life. Reproduced in front of each contribution is the A3 exhibition panel that introduced each project.



Exhibition Plan



JD John Dummett
PG Paul Guzzardo
GH Graeme Hutton
M&J Mackenna & Janssen
CM Cameron McEwan
FP Fergus Purdie
JS Jelena Stankovic
TP TAYplan

Projects





Plan detail of the city of Rothenburg, courtesy of the University of Strathclyde, photo by Lorens Holm

Continuity and Invention

Charles Rattray and Graeme Hutton

These panels summarise a three-year study of Dundee's Central Waterfront, an area that has undergone dramatic change: reclaimed dockland that had an infrastructure of carriageways, roundabouts and overhead walkways, has been re-ordered by the City on a grid of development blocks that frame Kengo Kuma Architects' new V&A Dundee. The project worked within the City Council's block plan while introducing new features including an additional street, within the blocks, which relates to the grain of the existing city. It examines how Dundee's existing urban fabric can be interpreted and extended to create places, streets and buildings which, while modern, show continuity with the past. The project develops a dynamic between important buildings and the ordinary matrix of the city which informs the proposed urban scale and hierarchy of streets.

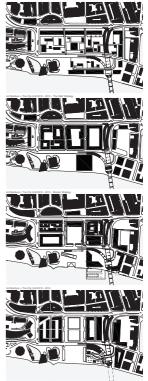
This research produced a master plan for the Central Waterfront that maximises its continuity with the city centre. It reminds us that architecture and architectural judgment are capable of the sort of critical look at the texture and planning of a city that Geddes regarded as necessary for informed place-making. It confirms the importance that Geddes placed upon the Civic Survey in the planning process.

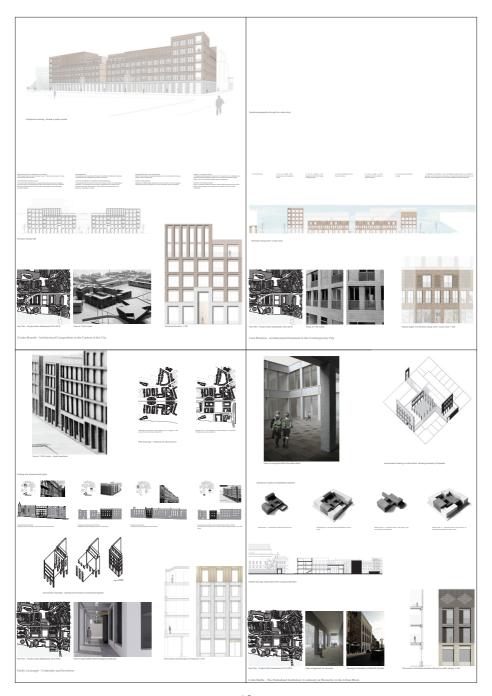
This research was conducted by the Architecture + The City Design Research Masters Unit at the University of Dundee led by Charles Rattray and Graeme Hutton. Rattray, FRSA, is an architect. He was in practice for twenty years, is a former Editor of Architectural Research Quarterly and teaches at Dundee. Hutton, RIBA FRIAS, is an architect and Professor of Architecture at Dundee who practices with LIR+H and has taught with Rattray for twenty years.



View of four main panels at exhibition opening (above) and figure-ground diagrams of alternative urban designs for the Waterfront (right).

Following pages: Detail images of panels.







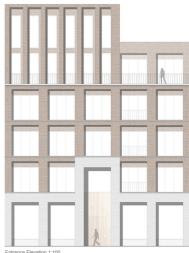


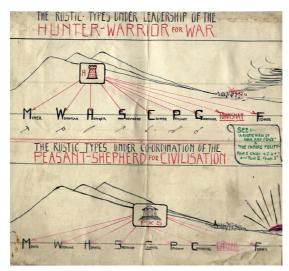
Elevation facing V&A



Key Plan - Project within Masterplan 2014-2015







Valley Section diagram showing the political consequences of leadership based in different positions of the valley: the Hunter-Warrior and the Peasant-Shepherd, courtesy of the University of Strathclyde

The Artefact and the Analogue

Cameron McEwan

'The collective and the private, society and the individual, balance and confront one another in the city.'

Aldo Rossi, The Architecture of the City (1966)

Aldo Rossi argued that the city was a formal and political confrontation that crystallised urban dynamics – land ownership, expropriation, relations of production – in architectural form. Rossi's theory of the city can be divided between what he called the 'city as an artefact' and the 'analogical city'. The former was put forward in *The Architecture of the City* (1966). The latter was never fully theorised and instead put across through essays, notebook reflections and drawings.

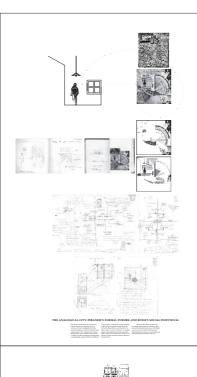
The montage panels interrogate Rossi's theory of the city and are simultaneously analytical and projective. They analyse Rossi's 'city as an artefact' and 'analogical city' by means of images from Rossi's books, re-drawing his drawings and extrapolating the categories used by him. The drawings reformulate Rossi's theory, finding new relations between categories and images, projecting an alternative reading. The panels are 'thinking machines', by which the author thinks through Rossi's theory of the city with a view to speculating about its productive potential for today.

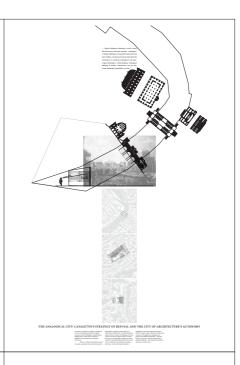
Cameron McEwan studied architecture at Dundee School of Architecture followed by a PhD on Aldo Rossi and the Analogical City. Cameron lectures in architecture and urbanism in Edinburgh and Dundee. At Dundee he co-teaches a Masters Unit conducting research on cities. Cameron is an Associate of the AE Foundation.

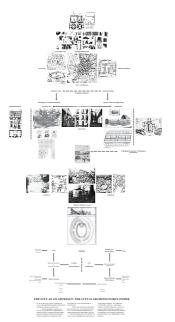


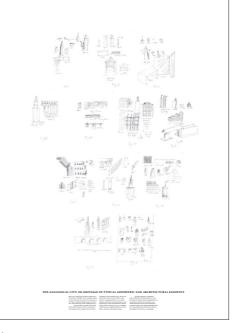
View of panels at exhibition opening (above).

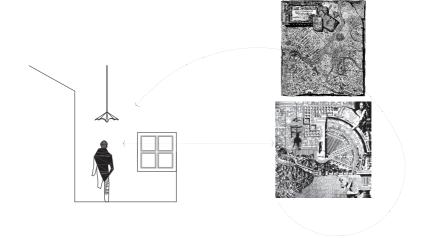
Following pages: Detail images of panels.









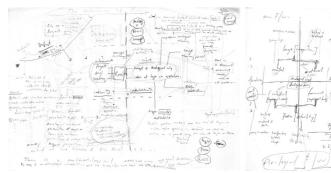


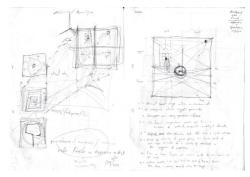














Photograph by Fergus Purdie of a bas-relief study of Geddes valley section at the Scots College Montpellier, France

Perth City Study

Fergus Purdie Architect, RSA

'Town-planning is not mere place-planning, nor even workplanning. If it is to be successful it must be folk-planning.' Patrick Geddes

In 2008 the practice was commissioned by Perth and Kinross Council to participate in a cultural planning study of Perth city centre. Fundamental to our thinking were the ideas and values of Patrick Geddes within the context of current urban design practice. Our chosen methodology required a more generalist approach through observing, recording and reflective practice. To support this line of enquiry we situated a temporary studio space in a local land mark building - the Fair Maid's House and operated an open door policy allowing public interest and curiosity to prevail. Thereby an open dialogue with our practice and city study was established. This spirit of co-operation culminated in the decision to present our findings in an exhibition at the Fair Maid's House using screen prints supported by models and slide show. The outcome, a more engaging, informative and educational approach that would have no doubt received Geddes's approval.

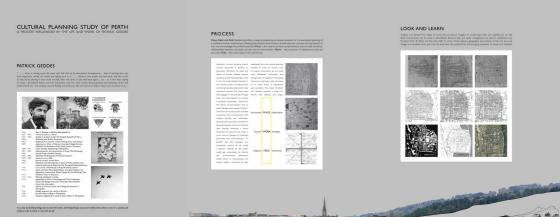
The Perth City Study panels exhibited here are facsimiles of original AO screen prints, held in the Royal Scottish Academy of Art & Architecture (Diploma Collection) © Royal Scottish Academy of Art & Architecture.

Before establishing an independent practice Fergus Purdie completed a broad range of educational and professional experiences that has informed his practice and teaching including graduate studies at the University of Dundee, postgraduate research and internship at the architecture studio of Herman Hertzberger, Amsterdam. Practice work focuses on houses, arts projects, housing and community focused initiatives to urban studies. It has been acknowledged in publications, exhibitions and awards. Teaching interests include studio tutor and invited lecturer. www.fwp-architect.com



View of exhibition panels (above).

Following pages: Detail images of panels.









GROWTH AND CHANGE

POLICY AND PRACTICE

CULTURE AND RESOURCES





GROWTH AND CHANGE

 $Decentralisation\ and\ Consensus: Geddes\ believed\ in\ the\ decentralised, democratic\ approach\ to\ planning\ issues.\ He$ argued that a generative discussion and creative interaction between individuals and groups within a community would harness human energy for concrete action. He insisted on constructivist thinking. Do you support the principal of involving all members of the community to achieve broad consensus?

Whilst city development can make significant changes to the public realm, recognising what remains essentially the same can provide key themes with which to explore cultural planning. Mapping processes assist this 'reading' of the city by revealing the patterns and nature of city evolution. For example the migration of civic functions from the city centre clearly illustrates the impact of progressive planning decisions (e.g. corporate and institutional) on the built environment. The counterpoint to such development activities are planning strategies for the short, medium and long term use of vacant properties, redundant buildings and gap sites. In Geddesian terms it could be seen as the application of conservative surgery consistent with a city that clearly understands and demonstrates the potential for civic regeneration at small, medium and large scale levels of engagement. In doing so it provides realm - in the form of a city's collective















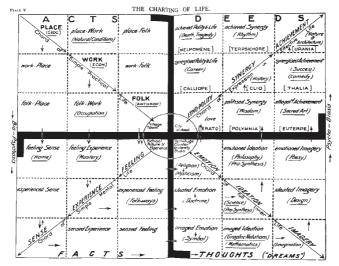












The notation of life diagram reproduced from Patrick Geddes, Cities in Evolution (London: Williams and Norgate Ltd., 1947)

The Collective Memory of Banja Luka

Jelena Stankovic

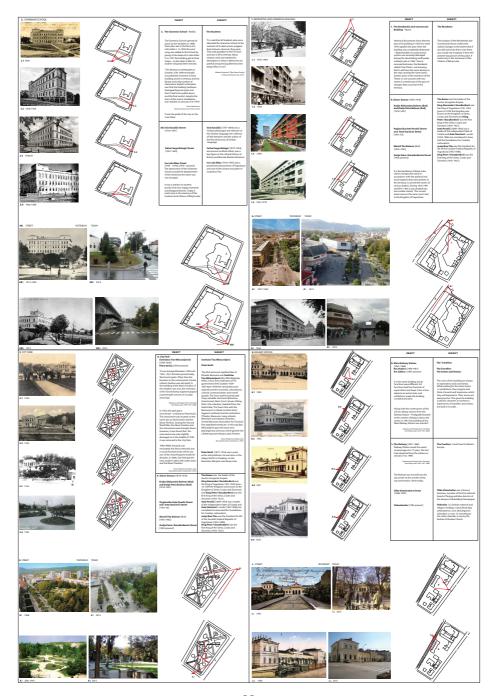
Banja Luka reflects on its past so that it can plan for its future. This project records the Banja Luka that only exists in plans, photographs, municipal records, the memories of its inhabitants. It is a part of a research project on collective memory and the city, which indexed the plans of Banja Luka 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.

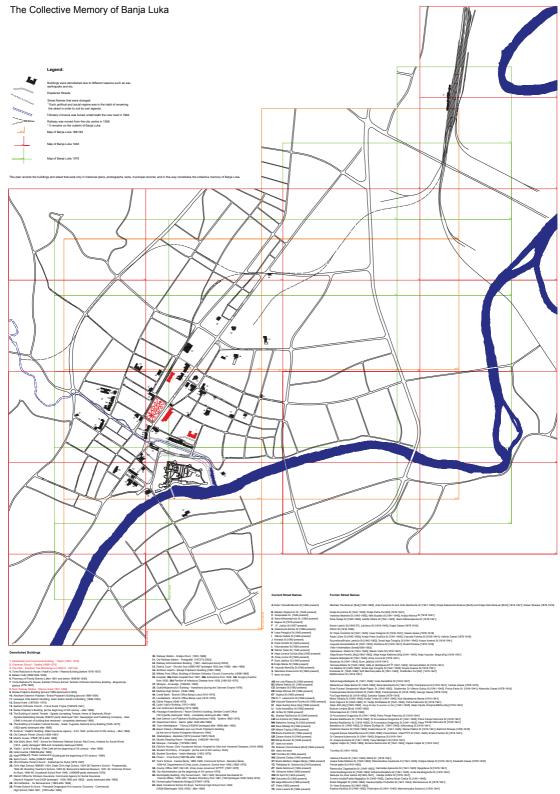
Jelena Stankovic studied architecture at the University of Banja Luka and is currently a doctoral student in Architecture at the University of Dundee, where she is completing her PhD thesis on the role of the city in the memory of its inhabitants.



View of panels at exhibition (above).

Following pages: Detail images of panels.







Drawing by John Dummett

score for a prepared voice

John Dummett

A contemporary city is never fully present, it is always either ahead of itself or looking back upon its origins. To experience a city in this conflicted temporality is to undertake an act of paraphrasis, an act of restating scored by possible futures and probable pasts in which the present is always elusive. But it is only in this ephemeral present moment that perception and the city meet, and the city becomes other than a speculative and abstract proposition.

Appropriating Patrick Geddes' *Civics as Applied Sociology* as a starting point, *score for a prepared voice* will observe and register the complex temporalities at play in a contemporary city. Conducted over 2 months along a pedestrian route in Dundee, *score for a prepared voice* will use different practices of writing, photography and drawing to enter the ephemeral present of a city.

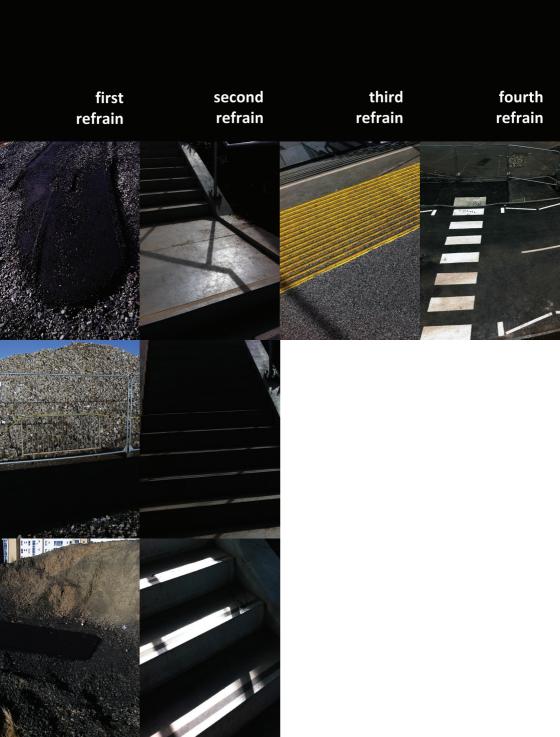
Rolling documentation of *score for a prepared voice* will be published at https://twitter.com/dummyPublic

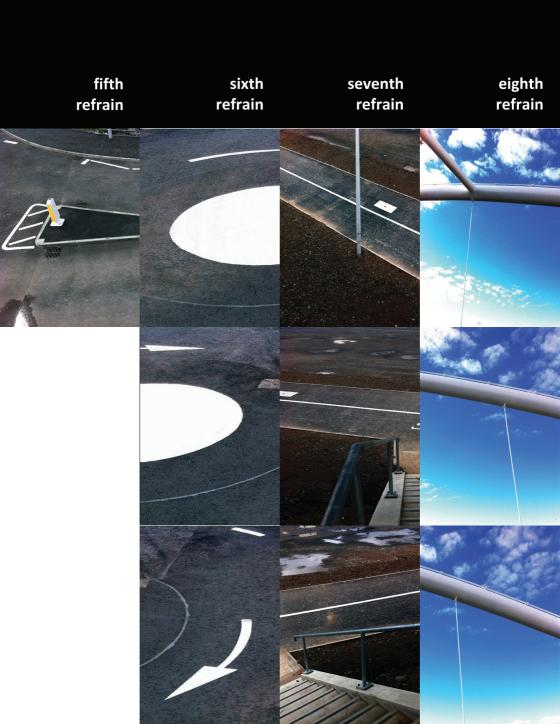
John Dummett is an artist working at the margins of sculpture, text and architecture. Utilising practices and discourses imbued with aesthetic, critical and spatial registers, Dummett draws upon a wide range of material including Political texts from the 17th and 18th centuries, Modernist architecture from the late 20th century and current Public Art, to critically engage with contemporary representations of 'the public'. Dummett is undertaking an AHRC funded Fine Art PhD at the University of Dundee and is a Henry Moore Institute Research Fellow.

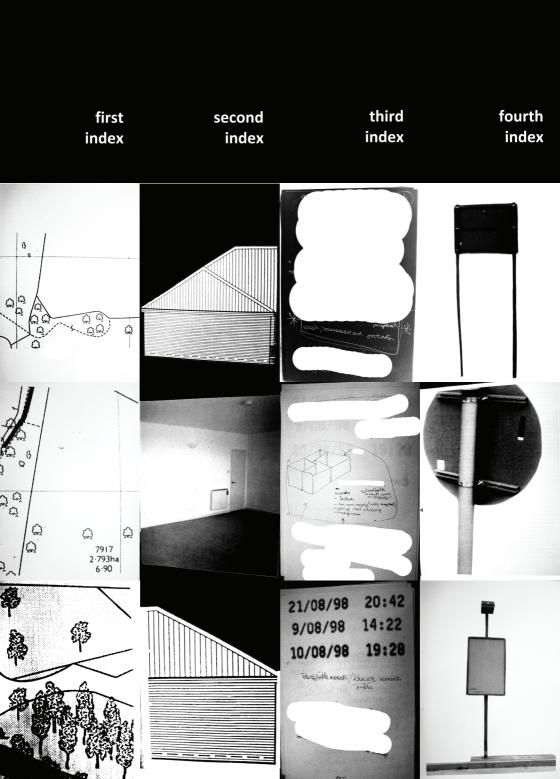


View of exhibition display (above).

Following pages: Detail extracts from exhibition material.







fifth index

sixth index









'Medusa' detail of Geddes lecture notes courtesy of University of Strathclyde, photo by Lorens Holm

A Septic Turn

Paul Guzzardo

A Septic Turn offers a contemporary update on Geddes' citizen survey and Civic Exhibition. The installation details an ongoing lawsuit between the plaintiff Paul Guzzardo and two defendants: Grand Center - a private corporation with statutory development powers in St. Louis, and Washington University - a bio-science research institution. Unlike Charles Dickens's Bleak House the transactional is secondary here. This is about the role of digital media in collective consciousness and how media shapes the relation of people to places. It's also about Marshall McLuhan's role in the intellectual formation of St. Louis, and how Geddes' synoptic vision got muscled out by a sycophantic one.

Project journals and looping multimedia tell the story. The journals contains press, legal pleadings and testimony. Guzzardo's documentaries and video depositions comprise the multimedia. The documentaries are buildbetterbarrel, the cartographer's dilemma, and posses | protocol | perp walks. The deposition witnesses are: Emily Pulitzer, collector and founder of the Pulitzer Foundation of the Arts; Heather Woofter, teacher and chair of graduate studies at the Washington University School of Architecture; and Paul Guzzardo, lawyer and media activist/artist.

 $Paul\ Guzzardo\ is\ a\ Fellow\ at\ the\ Geddes\ Institute\ for\ Urban\ Research.\ Further\ biography\ can\ be\ found\ in\ the\ project\ journals\ and\ multimedia.$



View of panels and films at exhibition opening (above).

Following pages: Detail images of main panels.

a descent into

It is high time to be staging the civic drama, renewing its long-forgotten ideals. For as we escape from the myths of a homeless individualism we see that the city in one age with acropolis and forum, in another with town house and cathedral has ever been the theatre and stage indispensable for expressing, with any real fullness and adequacy, each individual life. patrick geddes: cities in evolution

In the course of elaborating his fundamental graph, Geddes had in fact exposed the archetypal drama of life; and what was even more important had restored the missing factors of time and change. In the scenario for this drama the actors, the plot and the scenery, the dialogue, the performance, the setting actively bring into existence an interwoven sequence of events whose meaning and purpose no single part, however clearly presented, can possibly convey. lewis mumford: on his mentor patrick geddes

Amphitheaters, open-air stages, and performance spaces in theaters and public halls are standard features in Geddes's city design reports. He suggests an amphitheater as early as 1904 in his report for Dunfermline and proposes one again in his last city design report from 1925 for Tel Aviv. volker m. welter: biopolis

The space of appearance comes into being wherever men are together in the manner of speech and action. hannah arendt: the human condition

Patrick Geddes was a message Huxley and Darwin sent to the future. He died in 1932; the same year Aldous Huxley published "Brave New World" - another dispatch. Geddes left us a tool chest packed with maps. They're maps to build platforms that glimpse, peer ahead, assess what is coming, and maybe humanize this new place.

holm-guzzardo: the cartographer's dilemma



Patrick Geddes was a man in search archetypal drama(s) of life. Like Ch brute Hobbesian stage. Both men

flat

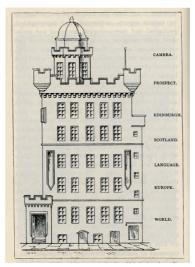
a city is more than a place in space, it is a drama in time.

patrick geddes

The film strip is from a fragment of a lost silent film. It is thought to be based on *Bleak House*, and believed the first time a Dickens tale was adapted to film. The strip is survey kit, part of a Geddesian tool chest. It's used to map a descent into flat. It shows up in the Guzzardo book *Hackerspace for Myth Making - The Manual*, Chapter 6.



h of an arena that exposed the arles Dickens he was a player on a vanted to change the set.



Outlook Tower diagram reproduced from Patrick Geddes, Cities in Evolution (London: Ernest Benn, 1915)

City-Regional Planning in Scotland

TAYplan and Town & Regional Planning, University of Dundee

Geddes' seminal ideas relating to the city-region have been highly influential in Scottish planning. This legacy is embodied, for example, in the name of the University of Dundee's planning school – Town & Regional Planning. Land use planning – or spatial planning – in Scotland has led the way in terms of strategic planning. National Planning Guidelines were a Scottish innovation in 1974. Interestingly, these were a response to North Sea Oil and Gas and the need for strategic coastal planning. Scotland has also introduced a National Planning Framework.

This project highlights two milestones in strategic or city-regional planning which reflect Geddes' approach of 'survey, analysis, plan'. The Tay Valley Regional Advisory Plan (1950) presents a comprehensive physical, social and economic survey for the management of change. In contrast to this relatively formal approach, we present the current work of TAYplan which uses innovative ways to engage people in strategic plan-making processes.

This presentation is a collaboration between Pam Ewen and the TAYplan team, and staff in Town & Regional Planning at the University of Dundee. One of four strategic development planning authorities in Scotland, TAYplan covers the city-regions of Dundee and Perth and is a statutory partnership of Dundee City, Angus, Perth & Kinross and Fife Councils. TAYplan provides direction for the next 20 years about where and how new development and infrastructure should occur.



View of panels and film (above).

Following pages: Detail images of main panels.

1915 CITY-REGIONAL PLANNING IN SCOTLAND



1950 CITY-REGIONAL PLANNING IN SCOTLAND

TAYplan

Geddes' visualisation of the inter-relations in the Valley Section







(Lyle & Payne, 1950, p. 235)





2015 CITY-REGIONAL PLANNING IN SCOTLAND













KEY PRIORITIES OF TAYPLAN 2015















1 9 5 0 CITY-REGIONAL PLANNING IN SCOTLAND



The preparation of the Tay Valley Regional Advisory Plan (1950) was based on the Geddesian principles of survey, analysis and plan.

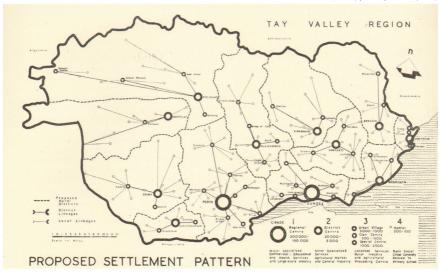
Anticipating current political priorities, in the Foreword to the Plan, Gordon Payne noted:

It is my hope that my journeying of some 25,000 miles in pursuit of knowledge for the Survey and Plan will not prove in vain; and that from the information and proposals contained herein a new spring of hope, confidence and well-being for the people of the region will be tapped from which will flow a richer and better life.

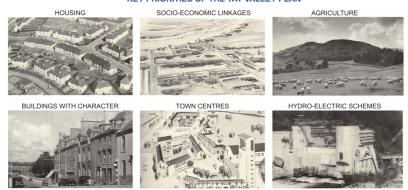
Citizen engagement, however, was somewhat restricted and did not involve active public participation. The authors simply anticipated that:

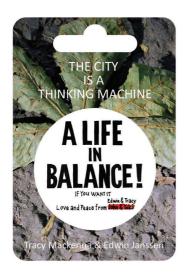
...the reader of the foregoing pages will have travelled in thought through widely varied circumstances and characteristics of the Region and of its people. Some aspects may be of interest to him personally and have made him conscious of factors and influences of which he was not previously aware.

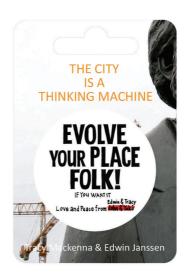
(Lyle & Payne, 1950, p. 235)



KEY PRIORITIES OF THE TAY VALLEY PLAN







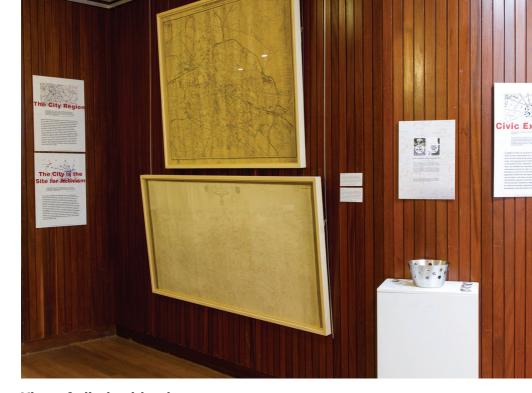
A LIFE IN BALANCE! + EVOLVE YOUR PLACE FOLK!

Tracy Mackenna & Edwin Janssen

Geddes' ideas regarding environmental wellbeing are reflected in our collaborative art practice that revolves around the question 'how to live a good life?'. We are interested in activating the city as a stage for presentation and exchange. Looking beyond the confines of the white cube gallery environment, we offer our joint practice as a site for social interaction and animated discussion.

In response to *Cities in Evolution*, we have made two portable artworks that are not bound by walls, floors and ceilings but that fluidly move from place to place on the lapel or in the pockets of the receiver who transforms into the messenger. The slogans *A LIFE IN BALANCE!* and *EVOLVE YOUR PLACE FOLK!* will be gifted to the exhibition visitors in the form of badges created to trigger a response. These badges are additions to our *John & Yoko Drawings* series.

Tracy Mackenna & Edwin Janssen share a collaborative art practice that is a discursive site for production, collaboration, social engagement and reflection. Exhibition projects, environments, publications and writing integrate art making, presentation, exchange and education. They focus on 'how to live a good life', art and wellbeing and the relationship between material culture and memory. They teach at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design, University of Dundee. www.mackenna-and-janssen.net



View of plinth with take-away badges at exhibition (above).

Following page: Badge as modeled.



Colophon

Editors: Lorens Holm and Cameron McEwan

Design: Cameron McEwan

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