Conference programme

Tuesday 11th July

10.00-11.00   Registration

11.00-11.15   Welcome and housekeeping
Oak Lecture Theatre

11.15-12.45   Session 1: parallel sessions
1a: Individuality and collectivity in premodern and modern global urban societies
Chestnut Room
1b: All the feels: the emerging field of urban emotions history
Birch Room
1c: Urban pasts, urban futures – a roundtable on the Anthropocene
Willow Room
1d: Rethinking the archive of the urban: perspectives from modern South Asia
Maple Room

12.45-14.15   Lunch
Restaurant

14.15-15.30   Plenary
Martha Howell – Urbanity and women's agency: the case of European cities, ca 1200-1800
Chair: Roey Sweet
Oak Lecture Theatre

15.30-16.00   Break
Coffee Longue

16.00-17.30   Session 2: parallel session
2a: Topographies of inequality in premodern European cities: digital spatial approaches
Chestnut Room
2b: Ibero-American urban history. Past, present and future
Birch Room
2c: Making Manifestos for urban history
Willow Room
2d: How socio-spatial relations matter for urban history
Maple Room

17.30-18.00   Celebration of Urban History
Bar

18.00-19.00   Drinks Reception
Bar

Wednesday 12th July

08.30-10.00   Session 3: parallel sessions
               3a: Where is the economic history?
               Chestnut Room
               3b: Urban history in Ukraine
               Birch Room
               3c: The Cambridge Urban History of Europe – Middle Ages to 1850
               Willow Room
               3d: Unlocking the urban commons: toward a new history of the city
               Maple Room

10.00-10.15   Break
               Coffee Lounge

10.15-11.15   Plenary
               Lynn Hollen Lees – Global cities and global economies: the weight of
               inequality
               Chair: Shane Ewen
               Oak Lecture Theatre

11.15-11.30   Break
               Coffee Lounge

11.30-13.00   Session 4: parallel sessions
               4a: Globalising Australian urban history: genealogies and future directions
               Chestnut Room
               4b: Photography and urban history
               Birch Room
               4c: New urban histories in Central and Southern Africa
               Willow Room
               4d: Making sense of contested spaces: towards a comprehensive urban history
               in Palestine/Israel
               Maple Room

13.00-14.30   Lunch
               Restaurant

14.30-16.00   Session 5: parallel sessions
               5a: Urban history and national history: modern Britain and Ireland
               Chestnut Room
               5b: The long lives of urban history journals
               Birch Room
               5c: Empire(s) and global urban history
               Willow Room

16.00-16.30   Break
               Coffee Lounge

16.30-18.00   Session 6: parallel sessions
               6a: Reconstructions and revivals in Central and Eastern European cities.

Constructing authenticity as a historical indicator
Chestnut Room
6b: Early modern Atlantic cities – a roundtable
Birch Room
6c: Urban history from the bottom up: the challenge of recovering forgotten subjectivities
Willow Room

18.00-19.00   Plenary
Kennetta Hammond Perry – Black life and urban histories: David Oluwale's Leeds
Chair: Domenic Vitiello
Oak Lecture Theatre

19.00-21.00   Conference Dinner
Restaurant

Thursday 13th July

8.30-10.00   Session 7: parallel sessions
7a: Past, present and future directions of urban-environmental history
Chestnut Room
7b: Asian sources of urban modernity
Birch Room
7c: From regeneration 'failures' to 'useable pasts': memory and heritage in Scotland's new urban social history
Willow Room
7d: New directions in Ghana's urban past
Maple Room

10.00-10.30   Break
Coffee Lounge

10.30-11.30   Plenary
Brenda Yeoh – Cities of migration: 'old' diasporas and 'new' diversities in the age of postcolonial nationalism
Chair: Rosemary Wakeman
Oak Lecture Theatre

11.30-13.00   Session 8: parallel sessions
8a: Urban theory of, for, and by urban historians: the state of a two-year conversation at the Global Urban History Project
Chestnut Room
8b: Infrastructural transitions in London, Toronto, and Delhi
Birch Room
8c: Emotional experiences of urban spaces
Willow Room

13.00-14.30   Lunch
Restaurant

1a: Individuality and collectivity in premodern and modern global societies   *Chestnut Room*

Chair: Ruth McManus (Dublin City University)

Panel members: *Moritz Föllmer (University of Amsterdam), Vany Susanto (University of Amsterdam), Tim Verlaan (University of Amsterdam)*

In his seminal article on the merits of urban history as an academic discipline, in 1996 Charles Tilly argued that urban historians have the opportunity 'to be our most important interpreters of the ways that global social processes articulate with small-scale social life'. Somewhat provokingly he called upon his colleagues to move away from site-specific, meticulously researched case studies and instead address history's central questions, most importantly the acceleration of globalization. Although the field of urban history is definitely experiencing a global turn, a quarter century later a lot of work remains to be done on how cities and their residents are historically connected to the rest of the world. In addition, while we have gained many relevant insights into how social groups function within urban societies, individuals and their interactions with collectives are comparatively under-researched and undertheorized.

With this session, we aim to think about how to bridge this gap in our knowledge by presenting three papers on interactions between individuals and collectives. Moritz Föllmer will speak about sociological approaches to the study of individuality and the ways they might inform the history of urban societies c. 1850 to 2000. Vany Susanto will analyze individual and collective petitions to reflect on the misrepresentation of the well-studied but ill-understood anti-Chinese violence in 1740 Batavia. Finally, Tim Verlaan will historically examine how and why people in northwestern European cities have increasingly come to live alone during the post-war period.

By historizing individuality in urban societies, we not only heed to the conference's call to focus on urban history's conceptual groundworks, its relation to other disciplines, globalization and race, but also address 21st urban challenges. Cities continue to be viewed, and marketed, as spaces of personal liberation and fulfillment. At the same time, they also appear as sites of isolation, so that e.g. the rise of non-family households has become a concern of numerous institutions ranging from municipal agencies to the United Nations. The position of individuals within urban societies have thus appeared, and appear to this day, as profoundly ambivalent.

1b: All the feels: the emerging field of urban emotions history   *Birch Room*
Chairs: Rebecca Madgin (University of Glasgow), Anneleen Arnout (Radboud University)

Looking back and beyond. Concepts and methods of urban emotions history
Rebecca Madgin (University of Glasgow) & Anneleen Arnout (Radboud University)

In this paper we seek to provide an overview of theoretical and methodological approaches that have been common among urban historians who have sought to understand the emotional life of cities. How have emotions been conceptualized by urban historians in the past and what are possible avenues for future research? What kinds of sources have proven valuable in

the past and what methods have urban historians developed to analyse their emotional content? And how might these be developed further?

In this paper we seek to reflect on and discuss the relevance, possibilities and/or pitfalls of an emotional or experiential perspective in urban history, and reflect on existing and emerging approaches to conduct such an urban emotions history. Drawing on our own empirical work across a range of cities in Europe we will discuss the impact of the theoretical frameworks and/or methodological approaches developed within the history of emotions, including William Reddy's concept of the emotive (2000), Barbara Rosenwein's concept of the emotional community (2002), Monique Scheer's concept of emotional practices (2012), Boddice and Smith's historical conceptualization of experience (2020), and the emerging concept of felt experiences (Madgin, 2021; Madgin and Kenny, forthcoming, 2023).

Urban emotions in late 19th -century London: Towards a history of atmospheres
Cigdem Talu (McGill University)

This paper focuses on the history of urban emotions through the concept of urban atmospheres, as experienced and depicted by women journalists and writers in the context of late-19th century London. I attempt this experimental investigation by extending current methods in the history of emotions into what we might call a history of atmospheres, more specifically the history of urban atmospheres. By historicizing and complicating concepts of atmosphere and emotions in the urban environments of late 19th -century London, I wish to reveal the nuances and emancipatory initiatives in how women writers and journalists in this period described emotional affects in their encounter with architectural and urban spaces, both as generators and repositories of feeling. This act of uncovering opens up to larger questions, such as to what degree, if any, urban atmospheres are collective; how a new urban panorama emerged through icono-textual, fictional, and architectural accounts; and whether this panorama presents a shared lived experience for the larger urban population.

The hypothesis is that urban atmospheres qualify or mediate the relations between people and the city, and they can be ontologically defined and historically studied as non-human actors, rather than being construed merely as the projection of individual human subjectivity. This paper investigates the "lived reality" and urban experience of biocultural actors in their situated historical context by analyzing urban atmospheres as non-human agents and focuses on two case studies: editor and writer Ella Hepworth Dixon's 1894 novel *The Story of a Modern Woman* and journalist and poet Alice Meynell's 1898 essay collection *London Impressions*. What is found in these examples, I argue, is the textual performativity of gender and atmospheres in the built environment: the relation of self to setting is instrumentalized through an immersive spatial vocabulary and yields an environmental imagination and ecological kinship with the city – a form of urban experience distinctively characteristic of the historical urban context at hand.

Culture, Cities and Cohesion: Delineating the Emotional Paradox of Urban Built Heritage in Kashmir Valley, India
Sabine Ameer (University of Birmingham)

This paper examines the nexus between urban built heritage and emotions. In doing so, it focuses on a medieval syncretic heritage site—Hazratbal Shrine in Kashmir, India. It demonstrates the impact of emotional value associated with this heritage site—a symbolic landmark—on trust dynamics in the valley and its role in shaping the social, cultural and political landscape of the Valley. In the pursuit of identifying the linkages between urban built heritage and emotions, this work aims to answer certain questions as to why urban historians should care about emotions? How did emotional norms and practices, and experiences shape the social, political, and cultural relationships in cities? How have they impacted the everyday urban life? The work relies on digital ethnography informed through analysis of archived historical newspaper articles on a case setting - disappearance of the holy relic from Hazratbal shrine,1965. The novelty of using archived newspaper articles lie in their potential to capture the lived experience—emotions, empathy, agony and helplessness of the devotees of the shrine at the alleged theft of the relic housed in its sanctorum—in the given time-space continuum. The disappearance of the 'sacred' relic transformed the precinct into an urban space of resistance and the ambivalence of public emotions with regards to this site underpinned the concurrent trajectories to cohesion and conflict. Thus, the paper encapsulates various dimensions like temporary transformation of a vibrant and bustling town into a deserted space with curfew imposed and everyday life rendered stagnant as people protested around the heritage precinct, demanding for the recovery of the lost relic. While the incident took place in 1965, the heritage site has since emerged as a symbolic landmark of resistance and resilience. This case further elucidates the concept of shared loss revolving around the loss of the relic, the shared grievances it generated irrespective of the social-political differences and religious animosities in the valley and the collective challenges it posed to the legitimacy of the state. The work posits that heritage and emotions are deeply intertwined and that the ambivalence of emotions associated with built heritage can underpin the juxtaposition of trust-mistrust thereby building or breaking cohesion in cities.

What Can a Digital and Affective Approach Bring to the History of Urban Emotions?
Maja Hultman (University of Gothenburg)

Building on spatial theories, and Monique Scheer's concept of "emotional practices", this presentation aims to show why a history of emotions allows for alternative methodological avenues that are needed to excavate affective responses from and emotional strategies within historically silenced and doubly marginalized urban minorities. Using the Jewish minority residing in modern Stockholm as a case study, it will firstly outline how the history of emotions helps us as historians to analyze sources normally associated with either qualitative or quantitative methods in tandem. Borrowing theoretical and methodological muscles from Digital Humanities and affect theory, it will secondly, explore and test the boundaries of a history of urban emotions.

Eastern European Jewish immigrants arriving in Sweden at the turn of the twentieth century were more often than not ostracized and ignored by the already established Jewish community. While documents from philanthropic aid exist, providing ample evidence of Eastern European Jewish life through the lens of integrated and richer Jews, less material convey the everyday life and experience of the newcomers. Their lives can mainly be tracked

in taxation and membership lists, a few memoirs published at the end of the twentieth century, and photographs and architectural drawings. How can we use such a disparate pool of sources to understand urban integration and home-making among members of this marginalized group?

A history of emotions provides conceptual vigour to approach these sources as a whole. Analyzing the group's communal relationship to Stockholm's urban landscape through spatial mappings, created computationally with information derived from taxation and membership lists, in tandem with textual and visual analysis of memoirs and architectural drawings of buildings used as synagogues, ritual baths and homes, this presentation can reconstruct bodily, sensory, and affective experiences. The main question of this presentation therefore is: how can we use these experiences to understand emotional practices? Can emotions be read and analyzed through quantitative, digital analysis and non-verbal documents – and if so, what other possible methodological venues can a history of emotions open up for urban history?

Digital Cartograph(ies) of Protest : Rhythms of Violent and Non-Violent Demonstrations in Revolutionary Paris, Summer 1792
Leon Hughes (Trinity College Dublin)

In the summer of 1792, popular involvement in Paris was at its height: festivals and counter-festivals marched across the city, mass Sectional meetings took place, National Guard *attroupements* gathered at key urban centralities, and local petitions and oaths were signed and given. This study uses GIS methodologies to map the 81 incidents of violent and non-violent demonstrations between June 1 and September 6, 1792 identified by Micah Alpaugh (2014). Asking how French Revolutionary protests used urban space, and the rhythmanalysis of this spatial negotiation, this study concludes that demonstrations arose in three asymmetric waves throughout the 99 days surveyed. These three waves peaked respectively with the *journées* of June 20 and August 10, and then the September Massacres, 2-6 September. A crescendo effect, the demonstrative process is modelled as an escalating non-violence which then peaked violently, to be followed by a process of predominately non-violent de-escalation. Spatially, the waves began in residential localities, reached pan-Parisian proportions concentrated around the political centralities of the National Assembly, Tuileries Palace and Palais Royal, and then de-escalated back into localities. This study hence uses GIS to investigate the rhythmanalysis of urban emotion/experience during a period of high political tension and uncertainty.

GIS methodologies hold potential for histories of emotion for, in seeking to move past previous dominant logocentrism, they ask how, following Boddice and Smith (2020), does urban space make experience(s) meaningful, and then vice versa, how do experience(s) make space meaningful? This paper contends that by mapping revolutionary "events" one can begin to reconstruct the urban emotional/experience of bodies-in-space (especially considering that events took place iteratively and urban space became a memorial-experiential palimpsest). However, this methodology does have some flaws: it gives "events" an impression of objectivity and discrete spatialities, as well as little nuance between the categories of 'non-violent' and 'violent', or the sociologies of crowd compositions. Yet, as

Boddice and Smith themselves say, historical experience can only be 'reconstruct[ed] as far as it is possible'; this question of the sufficiency of reconstruction leads to the contention that, despite these problems, GIS methodologies should not be discounted, but rather included in a nuanced and thoughtful integration with qualitative analysis in histories of urban emotion/experience.

1c: Urban Pasts, Urban Futures – A roundtable on the Anthropocene   *Willow Room*

Panel members: *Toby Lincoln (University of Leicester), Mark Williams (University of Leicester), Molly Desorgher (University of Leicester), Carl Nightingale (University of Buffalo), Vyta Pivo (University of Michigan)*

It is now widely discussed that the Earth has entered a new geological epoch, one in which humanity has left a permanent mark on the geological record of the planet. However, the start-date and causes of the Anthropocene, as this geological epoch is known, are hotly debated. Some see it as dating as far back as the enclosure of the first fields, while others point to nuclear weapons tests, industrial farming, and the global use of concrete as its identifying markers. Causes might include settled agriculture, global industrial capitalism, slavery, and colonialism, rapid urbanisation, and excessive patterns of consumption by some humans, all of which have almost always been exploitative of people and extractive from nature.

This roundtable considers what urban history might have to add to debates on the Anthropocene. Urban environmental history is now an established sub-field within the discipline, but engagement with the Anthropocene as an all-encompassing new ecological state of the planet is something that goes beyond this approach. These short papers span the scales from micro studies of Leicester's relationship to water and the lifecycle of concrete from geological formation to its disposal as a waste product to macro considerations of how planetary urbanization has contributed to the Anthropocene. They look at whether patterns of urbanism in other parts of the world such as China and Japan offer an explanation as to why humanity has entered this new geological epoch. Finally, the roundtable considers how urban history might offer examples of how humanity might exist in a more mutualistic relationship with the planet as we look to a sustainable urban future.

1d: Rethinking the archive of the urban: perspectives from   *Maple Room*
modern South Asia
Chair: Prashant Kidambi (University of Leicester)

Beyond spaces of colonialism
Stephen Legg (University of Nottingham)

The past twenty years have seen a rich outpouring of scholarship on colonial India. The focus of much research on this period has been the overarching political and governmental paradigm of colonialism. Various approaches the colonial have been adopted, and a governmentality approach based on the writings of Michel Foucault has been widely influential. One future avenue of research is to apply existing methods and approaches to the urban to political forms other than, but not wholly separate from, colonialism.

Anticolonialism and communalism would repay such spatial and scalar analysis. So as to not reproduce the interpretative forms of colonialism itself this would entail treating both anticolonialism and communalism not as outsides but as their own governmentalities, with colonialism as a problematising externality. This need not mean abandoning the colonial archive, but reading it along and against its grain for different geographies. But it also means expanding our definition of what the archives of spatial analysis might be.

South Asian Colonial Urban History: Newer Perspectives
Anindita Ghosh (University of Manchester)

While the remit of colonial urban history in South Asia has moved on from the respective lenses of economic/urban and colonial histories (Sinha, Gupta), respectively, to explore more complex questions of power and representation in South Asian cities (Legg, Nair), there are still perceptible gaps in the methodologies deployed to harness this history. First, there is the question of archives. It is time we scrutinised the nature of available archives for studying urban history, testing the limits of our forays into oral, visual and vernacular and not just the official colonial archives (municipal records, planning documents etc.), with obvious implications for the narratives that we uncover. Second, and tied to this, there is a need for a recovery of the 'history from below' of urban environments that are important for adding crucial experiential layers to those of the colonials and the Indian middle classes, so as to recalibrate other frameworks that would not necessarily be dominated by the story of colonialism, such as the history of the everyday. In both approaches, the story of the local intertwines with the story of the global in important ways to add unpredictable twists to the evolution of modernity and urbanism in the subcontinent. Challenges introduced by such perspectives would be enormously helpful in rewriting this urban history, so as to better understand their legacies in post-colonial South Asia.

Archives of the urban environment: rethinking the city in South Asia
Aditya Ramesh (University of Manchester)

In the early decades of Indian independence, M.S. Randhawa, an erstwhile member of the Indian Planning Commission, penned a book titled *Beautifying Indian Cities.* Focusing on what he called 'bio-aesthetic planning', Randhawa emphasized that beautification should follow traditional modes of town planning, which had sought to include nature, but largely as part of ensuring leisure in the city for various classes. Randhawa's report was not exceptional for the times. In official literature, experts warned that the newly independent and developing nation of India was neglecting its cities in favour of the countryside and heavy industry. In these early postcolonial writings, the 'environment' was confined to the realm of public health, while 'nature' was referred to in relation to aesthetic. As this paper argues, early writings on urban social history largely took this division for granted, without examining the analytical value of the environment or nature, and its linkages with the urban. Instead, I turn in this paper to newer scholarly works on the historical urban environment that have begun the spadework of rethinking and reconstructing the categories of 'environment' and 'nature' in the city, and their broader implications for socio-economic life in the age of climate change. Historiography on the city has typically consigned the environment to the

background. Nevertheless, the backdrop looms large, whether it is waterbodies, 'dirt', and animals (such as cows). Focusing on the history public health as an intervention, the paper argues that in considering these environments and non-humans as 'lively' and agentive, we can rethink the history of public health in the city, a theme which dominated early historiography. Inquiries around disease reservoirs, zoonosis and public health infrastructure in South Asian cities are yet to fully manifest. Indeed, extrapolating from the African context, 'disease ecologies', and understanding the diverse pathways of (post)colonial cities is critical to formulating responses to the twin crisis of climate and health.

City Noises: Sound and Urban South Asia
Aparna Balachandran (University of Delhi)

This paper will discuss how an archive of sound might expand our understanding of the urban in South Asia. While recent years have seen an expanding body of scholarship that has engaged with the importance of the sonic for urban history, the literature on the city in South Asia has largely privileged the visual, rendering sound (and the other senses) marginal to modernity. Focusing on the colonial port city of Madras in the 18th and 19th centuries, I argue that sound was central to the structuring of social relationships, to identity formation, and to urban politics – indeed, to the constitution of early modern urban spaces. How does the urban historian listen? What constitutes an archive of sound at a time before the emergence of recording technology? As important as finding new kinds of sources (in South Asian languages, meteorological records, natural histories etc) is the need to read familiar records (missionary or colonial administrative records for instance) in unfamiliar ways –as "acoustic texts", in order to identify and contextualize the sonic. These issues are central to this paper which focuses on the Protestant soundscape of Madras under East India Company rule. While print and literacy were undoubtedly central to the missionary project, sound as much as sight, was an intrinsic part of its lived experience. The control, regulation and the heirarchization of sound was crucial to the missionary understanding of what it was to be Christian, both for themselves, and for the native convert. The realm of the sonic articulated in religious terms allowed missionaries to negotiate the complex political terrain of early colonialism in South India that was characterized by multiple claimants to power and authority in the region.

2a: Topographies of Inequality and Spatial Experiences in   *Chestnut Room*
European Cities: Digital Approaches
Chair: Aridne Schmidt (Leiden University)

Occupation and Location in Bruges and Leiden, c. 1400-1600
Ward Leloup (Vrije Universiteit Brussel/Ghent University), Arie van Steensel (University of Groningen) and Ariadne Schmidt (Leiden University)

Studies on the social topography of premodern cities often focus primarily on the general spatial distribution of wealth and occupations. Recent research on late medieval Bruges and Leiden, however, confirms that these distributions show more complex patterns at a local level. This paper considers a number of parameters that determined residential location choice in these two cities in the Low Countries. It does so by investigating the locational

patterns of craftsmen working in the leather industry, a diverse group with varied occupational needs, environmental effects and internal wealth inequalities. How did leather workers' occupational requirements, environmental regulations, power relations, wealth differences and the housing market shape their place within the broader urban socio-economic topography? The comparison between the cities is of importance for two reasons. On the one hand, it helps to identify general mechanisms at work, resulting similar in spatial patterns, and local circumstances and developments that affected the cities' socio-spatial structures. On the other, the comparison is methodologically relevant, because it utilises a historical GIS to examine the urban social topography, but also to make systematic synchronic comparisons between premodern cities.

Poor Neighbours, Good Neighbours? The Impact of Spatial Segregation on Social Relations in the City: the Case of Bruges (Belgium) in the 18th and 19th Centuries
Heidi Deneweth and Wouter Ryckbosch (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)

The spatial analysis of economic inequality in urban contexts has allowed for new insights into trends of segregation and neighbourhood transformation in the early modern and modern city. However, if we want to assess social relations between people of different social standing, spatial proximity often serves as a convenient – but rarely studied – shorthand for social interaction. Did people of different social backgrounds living in the same street frequently interact, or did their social interactions cluster among neighbours of equal status? And were neighbourly relations more intense and frequent in poorer and more segregated neighbourhoods than in rich ones? This presentation aims to shed new light on how segregation and gentrification affected everyday social interactions between neighbours in urban areas with different social and economic profiles on the eve of modern urbanisation in the Belgian town of Bruges. In order to do so, we combine a GIS analysis of fiscal data with social interactions detailed in witness statements before the local criminal court. The witness depositions are collected, transcribed and annotated in a crowd sourcing project and through machine learning.

The 1866 Cholera Epidemic in Brussels: a Spatio-Temporal Reconstruction
Isabelle Devos (Ghent University), Sven Vrielinck (Ghent University), Torsten Wiedemann (Ghent University) and Sophie Vanwambeke (Université Catholique de Louvain-la-Neuve)

The COVID-19 pandemic has made us aware of the changing dynamics of an outbreak. So far, historical research on epidemics mainly focused on the overall impact of an outbreak (total number of victims, areas and groups most affected), but rarely on how an epidemic develops on a daily or weekly basis. In this presentation, we will discuss the spatial inequalities during the cholera epidemic of 1866 in the city of Brussels. The capital city was hit hard with 3,469 cholera deaths (out of a population of ca. 170,000). Linking individual data from cholera case registers, death certificates, and cadastral censuses, we are able to reconstruct a fairly complete picture of the epidemic's development across Brussels, from the first death on May 26 until the last death on November 15 (175 days in total). Using a wide range of spatial methods, we evaluate the spatio-temporal features of the outbreak. How did the epidemic unfold in different areas of the city? Which neighbourhoods were affected first

and last? Where did the epidemic persist the longest, and were some houses repeatedly infected?

2b: Ibero-American urban history. Past, present and future *Birch Room*

Panel members: *Sergio Miranda Pacheco (UNAM-México), Ruben Pallol (Universidad Complutense Madrid), Graciela Favelukes (University of Buenos Aires), Maria Fernanda Derntl (University of Brasília)*

The Ibero-American urban history has had important developments in the last fifty years. The hundreds of works presented in the two editions of the Ibero-American Congress of Urban History, sponsored by the Ibero-American Association of Urban History (AIHU) and carried out so far under the auspices of several Ibero-American universities in Chile (2016) and in Mexico (2019), bear this out, while Spain will host this year of 2022 its third edition.

The public reports of these academic meetings allow the reader to obtain a general overview of the themes, times and locations that have interested urban scholars in general and, in particular, historians of Ibero-America.
Those of us who participate in this panel, organizers and promoters of these congresses at different times, want to offer a limited balance to the experiences of urban historiography produced within four of the most important countries of Ibero-America: Argentina, Brazil, Spain and Mexico.

Without underestimating the value of the historiographies of other Ibero-American countries, we wish to offer a general overview of the trajectories, disciplinary convergences, scales, temporalities, approaches, achievements, and challenges that urban history has had and still has in our present in each of these countries.

2c: Making manifestos for urban history *Willow Room*

Panel members: *Lucy Faire (CUH/Open University), Denise McHugh (Open University), Chris A. Williams (Open University)*

This will be a lively, interactive workshop where participants will work collaboratively to co-create drafts of a six-point charter for the future of urban history. It will provide an opportunity for those practicing urban history at any level to discuss ideas and concepts in an egalitarian and relaxed environment. The workshop will make plentiful use of marker pens, flipchart paper, stickers and post-it notes. We're aiming for a friendly, collaborative and fun atmosphere: this is a hands-on session.

We will begin with a brief introductory presentation considering the early agenda of the Urban History Yearbook. Collaborating in groups, participants will have the opportunity to explore and discuss what they consider should be included in an urban history manifesto for the next fifty years. Groups will reflect on ideas and suggestions generated by other workshop members, with the aim of identifying common themes for urban history. The co-facilitators will enable small group discussion to produce several draft charters. The workshop will end with a short reflective evaluation of the session.

This friendly session is intended to provide a space for communication and innovative

thought to help build conference community. We plan to display the draft charters in a communal area for the wider conference.

This workshop will address big issues around what urban history has been and attempt to define what it should progress towards, in terms of methods, concepts and topics. The co-operative activity will model good practice in inclusive thinking and writing about the future of urban history.

2d: How socio-spatial relations matter for urban history *Maple Room*
Chair: Bert De Munck (Universiteit Antwerpen)

Suburbanizing urban history. Rethinking the urban question from the outside-in
Ilja Van Damme (Universiteit Antwerpen)

Within recent urban historical and urban theoretical work, the suburban phenomenon is no longer treated as mere 'extension' or 'periphery' of the inner city. Gone or the days in which flat distinctions and stereotypical dichotomies were holding a classic, but biased understanding of suburbia as "geographies of nowhere" afloat: being white, middle-class, and monotone socio-spatial entities, lacking all the complexities of the historic core. A crucial thematic focus in this aspect has been ongoing work on suburban cultural and creative practices, since, traditionally, such activities were only thought to arise and flourish by the grace of scale, diversity, and density – elements believed to be characteristic of inner cities. The following paper addresses and explains these historiographical oversights, while simultaneously unpacking suburbs as heterogeneous and historically layered places of living, work, and creation, shaped in a dynamic power-balance and interrelationship with an often dominant urban core. It concludes by proposing a revisionist research agenda, teasing out the benefits and problems of "*suburbanizing* urban history", meaning writing urban history from the outside in.

Of birds and people. Socio-temporal relations in a multispecies urban world
Dorothee Brantz (Technische Universität Berlin)

What happens to the geographic/territorial perspective when we think of cities as more than human spaces? The migration of animals, plants, and other organisms does not occur in accordance with artificially drawn human boundaries. Their movements are guided by other spatio-temporal relations that integrate social and natural processes. This paper will address the interaction of birds and humans in urban spaces in the early twentieth century to highlight the complexity of these sociospatial interrelations that link the rural and the urban all the way to the transcontinental and planetary. As will become apparent, urban bird populations in the early twentieth century adapted to the expansion of urban areas in numerous ways that can provide us with new insights on the configuration of urban spaces and their role in the networking of human-animal-plant intersections across different scales. One particular focus with regard to temporalities will be seasonal variation, which as we will see links very local practices to planetary events. In recent years, urban scholars from a number of fields are reconceptualizing the urban along the lines of such hybrid multispecies networks. It is through a conceptual engagement with some of their central ideas that I want to ask how

urban history, in particular, can contribute to a better understanding of the temporal implications of decentering "cityism".

Turning on the spatial turn. Rethinking the city through glocal networked infrastructure
Greet De Block (Universiteit Antwerpen), Jasper Segerink (Universiteit Antwerpen)

In the last two decades or so, we have seen an upsurge of infrastructure research in Urban Studies as well as Global History, based on the hypothesis that an infrastructure perspective could include a multi-scalar, and more dynamic, perspective on urbanization, thus exceeding the general focus on fixed geographical units, or 'methodological nationalism' and 'methodological cityism'. The infrastructural turn implies a novel epistemological framework forwarding infrastructure as key entry into understanding the city and uneven socio-spatial development. An infrastructure lens could bring networks and places into view, and in so doing show the multiplicity of socio-spatial frameworks simultaneously at work and fully 'turn on' the professed spatial turn in history. In this paper, we will rethink conceptualisations of the urban from a 'glocal' infrastructural perspective by analysing the case of the tramways in Tianjin revealing continuous dynamic de- and re-territorialization processes between China, Belgium, and the other imperial powers present in the city. Through its negotiated concessionary rights, designed infrastructural connections and disconnections within the city, the tram became an instrument of de- and reterritorialization processes between the Chinese city and the foreign concessions, becoming a distinct networked territoriality embedded locally, while making connections in global geopolitics.

3a: Where is the economic history? *Chestnut Room*
Chair: Shane Ewen (Leeds Beckett University)

A Depression Story
Richard Harris (McMaster University)

The Great Depression has attracted great interest from urban as well as economic historians. No wonder. Nothing dramatizes the importance of the economy better than its failures, while cities concentrate social and financial distress, not to mention potential political unrest. Unfortunately, North American economic and urban historians have rarely listened to what each other has had to say about this period. The subject of urban housing illustrates the point. When economic historians have discussed the subject, they have focused on residential finance at the national scale. In contrast, urban historians have dwelt on the local scene, emphasizing living conditions, unrest, and political initiatives. Both have neglected the role and interplay of property ownership and finance, which have important ramifications locally while illuminating the processes that, collectively, shape the national political economy. Here is a potentially fruitful area of dialogue.

Choice and Constraint: Shaping the Urban through the Lens of Affordability
Richard Rodger (University of Edinburgh)

This paper will explore how underlying economic characteristics of towns and cities, though they vary in detail, fundamentally shape the way individuals, groups, and organisations

decide to spend their money and that these decisions contribute materially to the distinctive character of places which we recognise as London, England or London, Ontario. Like most consumer items, price – and especially the price of land – affects the experiential, the exclusionary, and the expectations of urban dwellers. Do urban historians need to factor this in more fully when considering town and city life. This contribution will explore where economic history has been, why it has been absent without leave, and why it is important (crucial) to be rediscovered. My contribution will acknowledge the wealth of different approaches to the study of urban history but questions whether they might have even greater impact if economic history figured more prominently.

Why bother with real estate? Architecture and assets in modern urban history
Alexia Yates (University of Manchester)

Real estate and its operations – development, speculation, (dis)possession – are rarely historicized in our studies of the city. In urban studies, engagement with real estate is layered and critical but tends to be historically shallow, linked closely to the contemporary chronology of financialization. In history, too, property speculation is rarely historically situated, nor its actors and outcomes problematized. Economic history can be a culprit here, as the archives created by urban property provide rich data for quantitative and longitudinal analysis, but which are not often interrogated with an eye to contextualizing the meaning of prices and the specificity of economic behaviours or of the relationships arranged through market transactions. Failing to treat real estate as properly historical has costs, within and outside urban history.

 We need an urban history that can both "follow the money" (with its capacity to illuminate networks of power and responsibility) and theorize the urban experience in social and cultural terms. This presentation approaches real estate as the ground of the modern city, a manifestation of economic regimes, and a set of unequal relations that constitute key terrains of social and political contestation. Based on the author's research on building booms and built forms in nineteenth-century Paris, it suggests that real estate is a subject that allows us to combine the material and mental life of the metropolis, helping to better situate the urban as part of current historiographical debates on capitalism as well as add significantly to our understanding of economic life. It argues for – and aims to stimulate discussion about – a deeper and more uneven history to the processes of financialization that should inform our understanding of the nineteenth- and twentieth-century metropolis.

3b: Urban history in Ukraine   *Birch Room*

Panel members: *Markian Prokopovych (Durham University), Tetiana Vodotyka (National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine), Svitlana Shlipchenko (National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy), Iryna Sklokina (Center for Urban History, Lviv)*

This round table features important representatives of Ukrainian urban history institutions. It critically discusses the scholarly landscape and the engagement of academic, educational, and planning institutions and the civil society with the history of cities. Reflecting upon the contemporary situation and the way the war in Ukraine is affecting cities and historians in many different ways, the panelists address issues such as the preeminence of fieldwork over

analysis, migration, and the (im)possibility of immediate scholarly reflection. Can and should urban historians aim to go beyond documenting the effect of war on cities? In what ways will internal displacement and migration abroad influence the field, and can urban historians bring back to Ukraine a broader, comparative vision of war effects and how they have been gathered and displayed in other places? What kind of history - a local, urban, or national one - should be prioritised for memory projects? By addressing these issues, the panelists will aim to establish in what ways urban historians can contribute to the reconstruction and recovery of Ukrainian cities today and in the future.

3c: The Cambridge Urban History of Europe – Middle Ages to 1850   *Willow Room*

The Cambridge Urban History of Europe project
Dorothee Brantz (Technische Universität Berlin), Patrick Lantschner (University College London), Maarten Prak (Utrecht University), Gábor Sonkoly (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest)

In 2024 Cambridge University Press will publish a three-volume Urban History of Europe. With well over one hundred authors from all over Europe (and beyond), the series will be a landmark publication in the field of urban history. The general editor (Prak) will introduce the ideas underpinning the series, while the editors of volumes 2 (Medieval and Early Modern: Lantschner & Prak), and volume 3 (from 1850: Brantz & Sonkoly) will present the contents of those two parts of the series. This is followed by the presentation of two sample chapters from volume 2.

The Military City (Middle Ages & Early Modern)
Regula Schmid (Universität Bern)

The European city of the Middle Ages was an intrinsically military construction that combined defensive architecture and autonomous social organisation. By the sixteenth century, most town walls were vulnerable to modern cannonry. Intensified communication networks between towns and within the rising centralised states promoted the marshaling of know-how, resources and funding necessary for new outer fortifications of strategically or politically selected walled towns. Sixteenth- and seventeenth-century wars precipitated the rise of permanent armies. Cities were reconfigured in order to house troops on a continuous basis, transforming the morphology and societal composition of such garrison towns. Regional differences in where and how these two types of military cities developed were less important than locally dominating power, warfare, political organisation and topographical characteristics.

The British Isles, aka the 'Atlantic Archipelago' (c. 700-1800)
Phil Withington (University of Sheffield)

In the 1000 or so years after c. 700, Britain and Ireland's urban sector develop from a hybrid European urbanism on the edge of the continent to an imperial urbanism forming the scaffolding of a complicated colonial and commercial empire. This contributed to the long-term shift in European economic power from its traditional epicentres in the Mediterranean

and North Sea and Baltic worlds, with the Atlantic Archipelago on its margins, to the new riches of the Atlantic and Asians world, with the Archipelago at its heart. British and Irish urbanization involved conquest, colonisation, and social reordering as well as material improvement; and its cities, boroughs, towns and 'villages' are more than a little implicated in the human and environmental trauma of Atlantic slavery and the Anthropocene.

3d: Unlocking the urban commons: toward a new history of the city   *Maple Room*

Panel members: *Tom Avermaete (ETH Zurich), Sebastiaan Loosen (ETH Zurich), Sanna Kattenbeck (ETH Zurich), Nicole de Lalouviere (ETH Zurich)*

The history and theory of urban design have long been defined by grand narratives dominated by wealthy patrons of architecture, master architects, and ambitious city plans. Since the rise of nation-states, architecture has commonly been understood as an expression of the influence of the State and Market, often reflected in a dualistic conception of public and private architecture. Such narratives are called into question by the growing interdisciplinary literature of the commons, encouraging us to consider how 'commoning' may be considered a 'project for the city'. Our work has the ambition to develop alternatives to the established canon of urban history, re-centering it around common resources (*Res Communis*), common laws (*Lex Communis*), and common practices (*Praxis Communis*). This tripartite theoretical framework is combined with an interrogation of the epistemological regimes of architectural and urban history by critically incorporating the heuristics of case study analysis, archival research, architectural (re)drawing, and artefact life histories in our research.

Through distinct presentations, this session puts forth a set of theoretical approaches, research methods, and historical findings deployed to study the 'urban commons' at the Chair of the History and Theory of Urban Design (ETH Zurich). Over the course of six semesters, the research group has shed new light on the history and theory of urban design by unearthing exemplary historical expressions of the 'urban commons' to understand how their potential can be unlocked by urban design, particularly in a contemporary context. The city of Zurich, in particular, was studied as a rich case study of the 'urban commons'. Special attention was paid to their architectural, material, and technical facets by examining tangible common resources (water, forests, land, housing, and building materials).

4a: Globalising Australian Urban History: Genealogies   *Chestnut Room*
and Futures Directions

Panel members: *Simon Sleight (King's College London), Anna Temby (University of Queensland), Nicole Davis (University of Melbourne), James Lesh (Deakin University)*

In 1960, Asa Briggs visited Australia and delivered a lecture at the University of Sydney on 'Historians and the Study of Cities'. He observed that Australia had long been highly urbanised, yet research into the nation's cities and their histories were minimal. He attributed this to Australia's anti-urbanism, with the nation more focussed on rural pioneers and shrewd bushrangers than on the designs of cities and experiences of urban dwellers. He argued overcoming this anti-urbanism was a critical imperative; that Australia's past urban transformations, often linked to global antecedents, demanded attention for resolving the

urban and social problems of the day. Over the next two decades, Australians heeded Briggs' call, establishing new research centres into both urban studies and urban history. Reaching the heights of its influence in the 1980s–90s, antipodean urban history was inspired by many of the themes and issues then animating scholarship in the United Kingdom, Europe, and North America. While urban studies continued to thrive, urban history then became a peripheral concern in the academy. Research performance and funding imperatives disincentivised inquiry. Outside the university, public history and heritage study thrived. Today, a new generation of urban historians is emerging. Our priorities are First Peoples history, environmental history, heritage, planning and architecture. The budding scholarship is revitalising the field and demonstrating the continuing significance of urban history for both understanding the Australian past and for addressing the social, economic, and environmental challenges of today. Our contribution to the conference will be to bring an Australian perspective on historiography and audience, transnational and global urban history, and the contribution of historians to C21st challenges. Six decades after Briggs, the panel is ultimately concerned with the value of Australian urban history to domestic and international debates.

4b: Photography and urban history *Birch Room*
Chairs: Laura Bowie (University of Greenwich) and Wes Aelbrecht (University of Cardiff)

Park Life – photography and urban change in Olmsted's New York parks
Hugh Campbell (University College Dublin)

In the summer of 2011, the photographer Irina Rosovsky, newly arrived in New York, wandered into Brooklyn's Prospect Park and found her subject. 'If paradise can be littered with soda cans and cigarette butts, then here it is.' she later wrote. What she discovered was a vast natural setting in which the hot, busy metropolis disappeared from view and where people came to gather, to play, to eat, to celebrate or to be alone.

It was a place in which, as Rosovzky notes, 'there are no doors to lock, no walls that separate, nothing to own' – a place that everyone could claim and share. What this meant was that, as a photographer, she had easy access to a cross-section of the urban population during times when stress and pressure yielded to calm and pleasure. In her book *In Plain Air*, published in 2021, the prevailing mood is one of light-filled languor.

Designed and built over a thirty-year period from 1865 to 1895 by Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux, Prospect Park is often seen as a more ambitious and complete realisation of the ideals which informed the same pair's earlier design for Central Park in Manhattan (1857). In both instances, the aim was to provide a natural realm, supplanting the gridded urban order with a vast and varied landscape, complete with expansive meadows and rolling hills, dense woodland and hidden clearings.

In offering the space, nature and amenity otherwise in short supply, New York's great parks have served as a counterpoint to, but also a reflection of, the city's changing social and political landscape. This is where urban life spills out and spreads out, where variety is most evident and where, at the same time, differences become palpable. This paper will explore how photography responds to the life of the New York park and how, in so doing, it can offer a kind of index of the city's changing populace and habits. The park itself is less susceptible

to change, more enduring in its character – buildings and neighbourhoods do not rise and fall there – but its patterns of use nonetheless reflect the transformations happening beyond its borders.

Alongside Rosovsky's work, the paper will draw on the work of other New York photographers including Diane Arbus, Mitch Epstein and Joel Meyerowitz, with a particular focus on Tod Papageorge's great study of Central Park, *Passing through Eden* (2007). Taken over a prolonged period from 1966 to 1992 and made mostly with a medium-format camera, Papageorge's black and white photographs share something of Rosovsky's bucolic, lyrical character. 'There was something honeyed and heedless in all of this picture-making', he writes. At the same time, the pictures make evident the fractures and tensions of the city as well as its changing population. Similarly, Rosovsky's photographs reflect the striking ethnic and racial diversity of the surrounding neighbourhoods. Always, it is the communities with the fewest private resources that make most extensive use of the park's amenities.

This study of these two very deliberate and eloquent bodies of work will reveal points of comparison and of difference between the park life of Manhattan and Brooklyn, and between the urbanism of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. As importantly, the paper will argue for, and hopefully demonstrate, the value of the artistic photobook as a source for analysing and understanding urban change.

Photographic skill and historical efficacy: Photographic Survey as urban history
Elizabeth Edwards (De Montford University)

In this paper I consider the urban-ness of photographic survey in late C19th and early C20th century. In particular, I want to consider the close association of photographic survey, photographic assemblage and public free libraries. Drawing on material from Keighley, West Yorkshire, I argue that photographic skills were understood as donations of photographic skill within social exchange networks, which actively and productively contributed to the common good of civic society. As such, photographs within emerging local collections, became additive spaces of historical imagination, gathering points for traces of significance in the multiple, interwoven strands of urban consciousness, enfolded in the civic pulse of the public library.

Photography, the Archive, and the Arts of Governmentality
Joseph Heathcott (The New School, New York)

What do photographs want from us as they sit in repose in the archive? What stories do they make it possible to tell? What is the 'trace' that we can trace in their arrangements of dark, light, and color? In this paper, I look at photographs produced by municipal authorities for use in documenting, persuading, and justifying the exertion of particular urban agendas. While photographs from municipal archives certainly provide useful evidence of the content of cities and city life at given moments, scholars such as Peter Bacon Hales, Sara Blair, Cara Finnegan, and Shawn Smith have demonstrated that such evidence must be considered within the political-institutional frameworks of their production. Thus, I consider municipal photographs first and foremost as archivally embedded artifacts, where their status as unique or idiosyncratic objects is secondary to their imbrication within interrelated and intertextual

trajectories. Such trajectories, I argue, reveal a range of rhetorical and discursive 'pattern languages' of urban governmentality that circulate among municipal authorities through books, reports, plans, trade publications, lectures, and meetings. From housing reform to slum clearance, and from public works to grand visions of a city remade, the paper examines several visual rhetorical clusters that emerge from widely dispersed archival locations.

Unhistories
Max Pinkers (Independent researcher)

In Max Pinckers' *Unhistories*, photography is a dialogue with history: it shows the vestiges of colonial conflicts, it documents "the life of an oversight" (Derrida) imposed on Indigenous populations and proposes to constitute the archives of the history to come. Photography is also collaborative and, in the case of *Unhistories*, put at the service of the memory of Mau Mau fighters, members of the Land and Freedom Army who, from 1952 to 1960, rose up against the British Empire in Kenya.

Faced with the incomprehensible lack of photographs in the colonial archives documenting the British atrocities – archives that were intentionally destroyed, hidden or tampered with by the authorities of the time – Pinckers proposes to (re)visualize the struggle for independence from the personal point of view of those who survived the colonial violence. *Unhistories*, which mixes patchy archives, symbolic vestiges of the past, images of former mass graves and testimonies from veterans, claims to be decolonial and revisionist. Together with the National Museums of Kenya and members of Mau Mau War Veterans Association (MMWVA), the photographer delivers a collective response aimed at healing – but without erasing – the still gaping wounds of colonial violence.

Through the reconstruction of traumatic scenes, the "re- photographing" of places of confinement and torture and the portraits of those who were at the forefront of the rebellion, Pinckers makes a restorative instrument of the photographic medium that makes it possible to tell their truths to the powerful. He is among the few photographers who, through their practice and the dialogues they engage in, question their privileges and the symbolic power they exercise as white and Western individuals, as much as their position in the face of our shared colonial legacies.

4c: New urban histories in central and southern Africa   *Willow Room*

Crossing Boundaries in South Africa's Divided Cities: how conviviality, creativity and cooperation helped undermine apartheid
Vivian Bickford-Smith (Stellenbosch University/University of Cape Town)

Within global urban historiography there has been no detailed exploration of the nature and consequences of mingling across ethnic, racial or national boundaries in cities strongly socially and spatially divided along such lines like Belfast, Beirut, Jerusalem or Johannesburg. Might such mingling of people - and, with them, cultures and ideas - matter by helping to erode the boundaries? This paper is drawn from my current research project that aims to begin to fill the gap and answer this question by exploring the relatively little-known history of such mingling in South Africa's major cities during the apartheid era. The intention

is to reveal how this was possible, who was involved, where, why, and with what historically significant consequences.

My argument is that boundary crossing was not just about defying apartheid laws aimed at cradle-to-grave segregation. Rather it could also generate social networks that supported historically salient co-operative cultural and political endeavours based on these foundations. Those involved produced journals, novels, plays, music, satire, art, educational initiatives, civic and political organisations and movements that helped undermine apartheid. Because, in combination, they gave visual and material substance, both within and beyond South Africa, to otherwise abstract notions of shared humanity and thereby persuasively promoted the desirability of common citizenship

I would also hope that this work might give impetus to more studies of mingling in African cities North of the Limpopo that have not been so rigidly divided by legal fiat from above. Studies that combine a focus on, say, how rural ethnic loyalties are maintained and perhaps reinforced in the urban context. Yet which also explain how ethnic mingling still took/takes place, and the creolisation in numerous forms that has resulted.

Looking backwards to transition forward: identity regimes and Bulawayo's urban citizenry
Mandipa Ndlovu (Leiden University)

Bulawayo's young people are the focal point for this paper in unpacking the conversation on urban citizenship, identity building, and their socio-economic bargaining power within the second city thereof. A conversation that necessitates the very building blocks of new urban histories in the Southern African city. In doing so, the paper interrogates path dependency theory as an analytical tool to study the pros and cons of urban development in African cities in understanding historical, economic, and institutional factors that shape their growth trajectories and challenge narratives of their new urban histories (North, 1990; Pierson, 2000; Metz, 2011). On the one hand, path dependency theory has proven useful for explaining the persistence of legacies from the colonial and post-colonial eras in African cities. Particularly through institutional arrangements, historical events, and cultural factors that influence present-day urban development to shape long-lasting pattern and historical junctures (Diouf, 2003; Myers, 2011). When reviewing urban history in Southern Africa - in particular the case of Bulawayo - this paper argues alongside critics like Robinson and Acemoglu (2012) where path dependency theory may be deterministic in nature and an oversimplification of the factors involved in urban development from an urban citizenship perspective. While path dependency theory provides valuable insights into the development of African cities, it is crucial to recognise its limitations and consider a more nuanced approach that acknowledges the complex, intersecting interplay of historical, institutional, mythicised political, and global factors in shaping urban trajectories (Hammar, 2022: 49). This paper further posits that new urban histories must be examined through the lenses of identity regimes and identity boundaries which "interact with the logic of urbanising capitalist accumulation" (Yiftachel, 2022: 20-21). This is necessary to understanding the second city as a site of urban formation towards social cohesion for the people that matter most.

Sewing the city: dress-making and modernity in postcolonial Lumbumbashi
Rachel Taylor (University of Oxford)

4d: Making sense of contested spaces: towards a comprehensive   *Maple Room*
urban history in Palestine/Israel
Chair: Nora Lafi (Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient)

Urban planning by words in Palestine: Reconstructing a neighborhood out of the *Sijillāt*
Tawfiq Da'adli (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

This paper will try to shed some light on urban history in Palestine before the "Colonial modern" following a bottom-up approach, counting on indigenous inhabitants' acts on the ground. Court hearing registrations, where real estate was bought, inherited or sold, bring those ground-based acts in to play. Following those documentation, we can create a sort of plan for different past layers. Ultimately, the result will be an imagined plan emerging out of words written not by planners but by clerks. In extant old cities such as Jerusalem, the task is relatively manageable and can be fruitful in terms of following the history of one monument through the ages. By contrast, for an old town that no longer exists, such as Ludd, situated on the way between Jerusalem and Jaffa, the task can be challenging.

Court documents (Sijillat) and other records from the Ottoman era are a rich source of information about various social and historical aspects and can inform us also about the kind of administrative order that affected various issues. Complicated and sometimes interconnected estates were topics for deliberation in court. Such sessions were attended by at least three people, the judge and a representative of each party, who understood the issue at hand without bringing any plan or map to the court hearing. Instead, they provided a detailed and systematic description of the estate and its boundaries. Often, the estate was bounded by other residences, which were named after the owners, and sometimes an alley or a road was located on one side. In cases particularly useful as points of departure for creating and reconstructing an urban plan, there was a monument on one side – a caravansary, a *hammam* or a soap factory.

Worthy of Conservation: Redefining Jerusalem's urban heritage through the digitization of archival collections
Noah Hysler Rubin (Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, Jerusalem)

"'Jerusalem Archives" is an extensive project of heritage documentation and digitization which aims to locate, expose, and digitize a vast array of official and personal documentation pertaining to the city's modern building and planning, aiming to expose records which are locked behind paywalls, complex ethno-national and municipal bureaucracies, or simply unclassified, fragile, and inaccessible. The project's practical aim is to improve sustainable development and conservation practice by uncovering hidden and inaccessible documents and untold urban histories.

The cataloging and digitization of archival collections of different periods, origins and creators allows to dismantle the imagined borders between different periods in the city's development. Thus, the project allowed the juxtaposition of official correspondence of the late 19th century between the Ottoman Sultan and his constituents in Jerusalem (Al-Quds Al-sharif) stored in the Ottoman Archives, Istanbul, against official urban planning collection of British Jerusalem, stored in the Jerusalem municipality historical archives. The result is an

opportunity to examine some of the changing notions of the built environment of Jerusalem in the shift from the Ottoman regime to the British mandate and question some well-known imperatives of the modern development of the city.

The present paper will examine a central notion of the development of the city which was debated between the Ottoman and the mandate periods: the role of the City Walls. Was the new city regarded a continuation of the Old City, or a separate entity? Were the Walls treated as an element in the growing urban fabric, or an obstacle to it? Did they serve to contain the Old City or protect it? As the Walls are considered an integral part of the old city and compose an important element in its declaration as a world heritage site, the answers to some of these questions may unsettle the definition of built heritage and the identification of chosen sites in Jerusalem, and the elimination of others, as 'worthy of conservation'.

Towards a History of Multiplicity: Urban Planners vs Architects and the Birth of Israeli Ethno-racial Planning
Shira Wilkof (Israel Institute Technion Institute of Technology)

Architectural modernism, with its unmistakable building style and progressive spirit, has long become a blanket term for mid-20th century urbanism. This paper however shows how attending to disciplinary multiplicity can revise well-entrenched national narratives. It does so by focusing on the Sharon Plan, Israel's celebrated New Towns programme and a central ethos of early statehood. Contrary to its conventional association with design modernism and Arieh Sharon's Bauhaus values, I show how the plan drew on an obscure blueprint devised by an urban planner, Eliezer Brutzkus, in the context of the Peel Partition Plan in 1937. Brutzkus devised a proto-national mass urbanization plan, based on 'comprehensive planning' of a land emptied of its Arab majority. In 1948, this plan was updated and canonized as the Sharon Plan. This new context challenges Sharon Plan's "white purity of the Bauhaus" as it situates it within the longer-term history of Zionist colonization and its 'messy realities'.

Between the valley and the mountain: public health in Tiberias and Nablus during the late Ottoman period
Ahmad Mahmoud (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

The late Ottoman period witnessed the emergence of public health, a transformation that reorganized urban life and the relations between the local administration and the residents. The emergence of public health was a reflection of central policies that affected the empire's cities in general and those of Palestine in particular.

Public health policies include several measures, such as maintaining the cleanliness and health of the city's residents, preventing pandemic disease, and supplying vaccinations and veterinary medicine. Taking the concept of agency as a historical decision-making idea in urban transformation, this paper aims to show and compare the implementation of the central government's policies in Nablus and Tiberias, and the meaning of these policies for the residents and the local administration.

Nablus is a mountain city. During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, Nablus

was one of the most important cities of the interior, in terms of its continuous construction, population density, economic activity, and local independence. Tiberias, located in a valley, served as a crossroad for transportation and trade between present-day Jordan, Palestine, and Syria, especially with the construction of the Hijaz railway. Tiberias also served as a tourist attraction.

In addition to the environmental elements of the two cities, public health affected and challenged the urban fabric and introduced new behaviors. Local primary sources, such as protocols of the municipal councils and local newspapers, allow us to understand and define the uses of urban space, examining inter-communal relations as a unique perspective resulting from the central policy of the state.

5a: Urban history and national history: modern Britain and Ireland   *Chestnut Room*

Chair: Simon Gunn (University of Leicester)

Rethinking Post-1945 British History through Real Estate Development
Alistair Kefford (Leiden University)

Our panel is centred on the relationship between urban and national history, and particularly on a wave of recent urban historical work on the post-1945 era which has been aimed at broader debates within national historiography (around welfare statehood and neoliberalism, for example, empire and decolonisation, or deindustrialisation and mass affluence). This paper exemplifies such an intellectual approach by considering how the history of urban real estate development in post-1945 Britain can help us to rethink some of the larger frames through which the country's broader national history is commonly understood. In the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s the largest real estate companies in the world were British, and these businesses operated highly profitably both within Britain and internationally. The British property sector developed a remarkable global scope of operations long before that of other comparable countries. I consider why this was the case and suggest that the history of Britain's booming post-war property sector offers important new perspectives on both the domestic political economy of welfare statehood and the international picture of (post)imperialism and decolonisation.

An urban history of the Troubles
Erika Hanna (University of Bristol)

Despite the explosions and uniforms which appeared on cathode-ray TVs during the 1970s and 1980s, for many the way that these political and military crises were experienced was through delays. The anxious, exhaustive, efforts to search every person, place, and car for traces of guns, explosives, and suspicious persons led to a new infrastructure laid over both the Victorian and the post-war landscape designed to slow people down. This paper explores how that infrastructure, of checkpoints, security gates, and control zones, shaped urban space and the way it was experienced. Whereas we often think about an 'architecture of hurry' as a key component of the modern city, Northern Ireland in the latter twentieth century experienced something else, a security apparatus designed to stop the movement of bullets

and explosives, but in so doing slowing down everyone and everything else. People spent the Troubles waiting.

Figures in an Urban Landscape: The Jogger, the Mugger and the Hipster
Peter Mandler (University of Cambridge)

This paper looks at the gentrification of London as represented through three media 'types' - the jogger (representing early gentrification in a hazardous period of urban stagnation), the mugger (representing the media's moral panic about social diversity in the city), and the hipster (representing the perception of the triumph of gentrification since the 1990s). It thus combines a number of themes illustrative of the 'new urban history' of postwar Britain: the impact of deindustrialization and the rise of the knowledge economy; the role of the media in shaping public perceptions (and misperceptions) of these developments, and its increasingly transnational (especially transatlantic) context; the reversion to a language of 'urban types' once thought more characteristic of the nineteenth century.

5b: The Long Lives of Urban History Journals *Birch Room*

Panel members: *Rosemary Wakeman (Urban History), Harold Bérubé (Urban History Review/Revue d'histoire urbaine), Dorothee Brantz (Moderne Stadtgeschichte), Laurent Coudroy de Lille (Revue Histoire Urbaine) Cédric Feriel (Revue Histoire Urbaine), David Goldfield (Journal of Urban History), Nora Lafi (Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient), Roey Sweet (Urban History) Rosa Tamborrino (Città e Storia)*

This Roundtable will discuss the role of urban history journals in the past, present, and future of the discipline. How have journals facilitated innovative research and made it accessible to a broad scholarly public? What challenges do journals currently face and what changes are necessary as the academic publication world and scholarship in urban history alter in the future?

5c: Empire(s) and global urban history *Willow Room*

Panel members: *Mohd Aquil (Jawaharlal Nehru University), Stephen Legg (University of Nottingham), Queenie Lin (Taipei National University of the Arts), Anna Ross (University of Warwick), Cyrus Schayegh (Geneva Graduate Institute), Michael Thornton (Yale University), and Taoyu Yang (NYU Shanghai)*

In AY2021/22, the Global Urban History Project organized four thematic online tracks. One, "Cities, Empire, and its (Dis)contents, c. 1500-2000," had nineteen members, who discussed thirteen papers during the year. The present double-roundtable application to the Leicester Urban History Conference re-unites eight of those members: Mohd Aquil, Stephen Legg, Queenie Lin, Dries Lyna, Anna Ross, Cyrus Schayegh (organizer), Michael Thornton, and Taoyu Yang. Meeting at long last in person, we will build on our 2021-22 discussions to reflect on how the scholarship on empires contributes to studying "the urban" through "the global" and vice versa. Key aspects of the question *"How do empires help us think urban-global linkages?"* discussed in 2021/22, on which we will build, were: continuities and changes in how empires function from the early modern to the modern period; regional

variations; overlaps *and* disconnections between "global" and "imperial" networks; the effect of empires' differences *as well as* cooperations; the role of anti-colonial & decolonizing networks; and the question whether there is such a thing as the "colonial" or "imperial" city. Most fundamentally, the double-roundtable will discuss how folding "empire" into "global/urban" research may help us not only to focus on worldwide parallels and relationships involving cities, but also to mind the historically grounded particularities of "global/urban" cases and to study state and non-state actors' management of differences and hierarchies between "global/urban" cases. As such, this double roundtable will talk to two key concerns of the conference: "Transnational and global urban history" and, more broadly, "Conceptual groundwork of urban history."

6a: Reconstructions and revivals in Central and Eastern European *Chestnut Room*
cities. Constructing authenticity as a historical indicator

Panel members: *Jacek Purchla (University of Economics, Kraków), Péter Erdősi (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest), Jovana Janinovic (University Safarik, Kosice/University of Valladolid), Gábor Sonkoly (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest)*

The swiftly reinstalled Lenin statue in Henichesk (Kherson district, April 2022) by the invading Russian forces, the reconstructions of the Buda Royal Castle and its area as the most important representative project of the Orbán regime (National Hauszmann Plan, 2014-2024), the restoration of the Marion statue at the Old Square of Prague (2020) or the opening of the largely contested Humboldt Forum in Berlin (2020) are prominent, but not unique examples of a new paradigm of contested urban memorial and monumental spaces in Central and Eastern Europe.

This contemporary political use of the past exploits the current historical condition, where the future is closed down and the past opens up to serve as an experimental and explicatory field for social actors in search of identity justifications. Belated reconstructions are easily justified by current political necessities, which in turn permit reminders of recently rejected periods to be demolished. In consequence, the standard principles of heritage preservation that created distance between a past worthy of renovation and a present that produced its technical maintenance are replaced by the continuity of reconstruction, in which the boundary between past and present is blurred into one memorial/monumental unit representing the correction of contested bygone periods. Thus, these reconstructions divulge current historical discourses, the nature and mechanisms of current political regimes to apply them as justificative tools, and the pathological conditions of a society associated with historical traumas embodied by reconstructed monuments and edifices.

The panel will tackle the possibilities of urban history to develop proper methodology to analyse these reconstructions and of the current regime of urban heritage in general. Authenticity will be regarded as a key indicator, which is not only a contested and redefined principle of global heritage discourse, but also a formative experience of modernity and of historical experience. Though the session is dedicated to Central and Eastern European examples of urban history, the cases will be examined from a global perspective.

The participants of the panel are also authors of a new edited volume intitled *Urban Heritage in Europe: Economic and Cultural Revival* (Routledge, 2023), what will offer further discussions about the panel's topic and about Central and Eastern European urban history during the conference.

6b: Early modern Atlantic cities – a roundtable   *Birch Room*

Panel members: *Phil Withington (University of Sheffield), Paul Musselwhite (Dartmouth College), Mark Peterson (Yale University), Lila Chambers (University College London), Chloe Ireton (University College London), Annika Raapke (Uppsala University)*

The last few decades have seen an exponential growth in early modern 'trans-Atlantic' history. The ramifications of this Atlantic framing for urban history and, indeed, the role of towns and cities in key processes of colonization, commerce, and expropriation by Europeans remains relatively neglected. At the same time, though, the larger field is now being pulled beyond the "Atlantic" framework by movements such as #vastearlyamerica and the search for global urban history. This roundtable presents an opportunity for historians interested in various kinds of Atlantic cities and their networks to discuss how the field has developed and identify important themes and trends, reflected especially on the ongoing value of the "Atlantic" paradigm. We will encourage participants to consider and compare Atlantic cities in and of themselves and to suggest the importance of urban culture and urbanization to trans-Atlantic developments more generally.

6c: Urban history from the bottom up: the challenge   *Willow Room*
of recovering forgotten subjectivites
Chair: Vivian Bickford-Smith (Stellenbosch University/University of Cape Town)

The Lost Politics of Blight: Grassroots Black Politics and the Making of 20th Century Urban Policy in St. Louis, Missouri, 1877-1940
Taylor Desloge (Connecticut College)

This paper offers a critical reassessment of the origins of 20th century American urban policy through an excavation of the evolving grassroots political demands of three generations of black migrants to St. Louis, Missouri between the end of Reconstruction and the dawn of urban renewal. It argues that black political demands constitute a vital missing thread in the long history of 20th century American urban policy. Through a selection of examples drawn from research in court cases, property records, oral history transcripts, surveys and more, this paper shows how black St. Louisans' struggles against the advance of Jim Crow, exploitative landlords and endemic diseases of poverty and segregation shaped the designs and policies planners, public health officials and politicians developed in their own struggle to assert authority over the landscape of the 20th century city. In policies from tenement reform to slum clearance, public health to public housing, St. Louis' civic elite at turns accommodated and sought to suppress black political demands in service of a broader 20th century vision of urban welfare designed to advance the interests of property owners and investors. By uncovering the history of these demands, and the stories of people who fought for them, this

paper challenges a historiography that has too often centered the perspectives of policymakers and shows how the forgotten experiences and politics of African American citydwellers were in fact central to the story of how 20th century American urban policy was made.

Affective Histories: The Harlem Protest of 1943
Bridget Laramie Kelly (Washington University in St. Louis)

In this paper I apply affective theory to the Harlem "riot" of 1943, a two-day demonstration of property destruction that occurred two months after the deadliest riot in American history (Detroit) and during heightened tensions of World War II. On a summer evening in 1943, local Harlem residents and tourists alike danced, laughed, socialized, and otherwise made their presence known in the most famous Black neighborhood in America. On August 1st, around 9:00PM, three thousand Harlem neighbors took to the streets in forty-eight hours of rioting which resulted in five deaths and over $5 million dollars in property damages. Affect theory has been employed in many disciplines as a way to reinterpret traditional understandings of human experience and behavior within oppressive systems. Specifically, scholars of affect have debated theory and discourse around subjectivity, the reality that people exist in someone else's mind instead of their own bodies. Subjectivity raises questions about the possession of feelings, beliefs, and emotions in conscious states of being in the world. Subjectivity also brings attention to scholarly tensions between biological explanations and non-representational affect, an emphasis which has led to the disappearance of subjects themselves from the meaning-making process. Within this modus operandi, the exceptional quality of subjects has been lost. Queer theorist writer Sara Ahmed's earlier intervention addresses the gap left by the concept of affective practice and links contemporary affects to deeper, historic moments, in this case, a riot that erupted during World War II. Sex work, looting, or other illegal acts embodies the logical deviance that emerges from traumatic systems of slavery, colonialism, and racialized capitalism. In line with sociologist, Emile Durkheim's argument that criminal deviance within abusive systems is not pathological, but indeed rational, revolutionary, and necessary, we are compelled to reconceptualize the 1943 Harlem riots as a moment of affective history, people given a fleeting opportunity to reclaim ownership and bodily autonomy. What began as an individual act in defense of Black womanhood against white control represented in Officer Collins' assessment of Marjorie Polite, transformed into a popular critique, albeit brief, of the affective political economy in Harlem, New York.

Sanctuary in Solidarity: Central Americans and the Sanctuary Movement
Domenic Vitiello (University of Pennsylvania)

The Sanctuary Movement of the 1980s is one of the most important immigrant rights movements in history, influencing national policy and social movements that continue today. Most people, including historians, understand the Sanctuary Movement as an "underground railroad" led by people from the United States who harbored Central American asylum-seekers in churches and advocated to end US government support for genocidal regimes in El Salvador and Guatemala at the height of those countries' decades-long civil wars. This

narrative is only part of the paternalism associated with the movement.

Scholars have rarely considered the Sanctuary Movement in urban perspective, but this is crucial for understanding its diverse origins and the forms it took. The "underground railroad" narrative is very much a story about Chicago and Tucson, Arizona, two key nodes in the movement within the US and home to its most famous leaders and purported "founders." But viewed from Philadelphia, New York, Boston, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Mexico City, Tapachula (Mexico), and other centers of the movement, and from Central America, a different picture emerges.

In a fundamental sense, the Sanctuary Movement grew out of Central Americans' own labor, student, peasant, and indigenous rights movements. It also grew out of pre-existing solidarity movements in which some US citizens and institutions allied with those and other social movements in Latin America. Considering the Sanctuary Movement from the perspectives of Central Americans and people involved in solidarity movements tells a longer history predating the 1980s and continuing today in transnational human rights and community development work.

7a: Asian sources of urban modernity *Chestnut Room*

Panel members: *Taoyu Yang (New York University Shanghai), Nabaparna Ghosh (Babson College), ShawnaKim Lowey-Ball (University of Utah), Roderick Wilson (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), Eric Lewis Beverley (State University of New York, Stony Brook)*

How did Asian experiences contribute to the production of the ideas and institutions associated with "modern cities" over the centuries? The concept of the modern city, as it developed in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, is identified with developments in Western Europe and the United States. Asian urbanist thinkers and practitioners of that era responded to it—embracing, critiquing, and/or rejecting it—largely as a foreign import. But how did Asian ideas and practices shape the emergence of Asian urban modernity? That question is the focus of our roundtable. Participants will draw on their own regional expertise to highlight how Asian ideas about urban governance and visions of future cities have shaped and are shaping the evolution of the concept of modern urbanism. Is the geographical concept of "Asia" itself useful for understanding urban history? If so, how should it be defined? Kristin Stapleton will assess the global impact of Chinese statecraft, including the rise and fall of the centrality of the concept of the city within it. Eric Beverley will trace how legacies of past sovereigns and social practices combine with transnational flows of Muslim, Persianate, and various regional Asian urbanist ideas to shape cities such as Hyderabad. Roderick Wilson will examine the environmental health policies and practices that emerged in Tokyo during this period for what they can tell us about the transnational flow of ideas regarding urban planning and governance and their role in what has been called global modernity. ShawnaKim Lowey-Ball will discuss how Southeast Asian port cities developed to be profoundly multinational in character, often with significantly less centralized government than their European equivalents. Nabaparna Ghosh will address how caste featured as an essential part of colonial town plans, and how caste informed the fabric of

neighborhoods in colonial Calcutta, preserving social spaces of villages in cities. Focusing on Tianjin, a unique urban center divided by multiple colonial concessions and a series of evolving Chinese municipalities, Taoyu Yang will explore the creation of the city's modern built environment resulting from foreign-Chinese, as well as foreign-foreign, interactions during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

7b: The past, present and future of *Birch Room*
urban-environmental history

Panel members: *Sam Grinsell (University College London), Andrew McTominey (Leeds Beckett University), Ruth Morgan (University of Western Australia), Marjaana Niemi (Tampere University), Dieter Schott (Darmstadt University of Technology)*

Responding to the emergence and international spread of environmental history, the issue of the urban environment has become a major subfield of urban history in Europe since roughly 2000. After a brief but fierce controversy as to whether cities as 'non-nature' can be dealt with in environmental terms at all, conducted between leading figures of environmental and urban history in the USA (particularly Worster vs. Tarr/Melosi), a consensus about the city being a legitimate subject of environmental history has been reached since the mid-1990s. Urban history has also made stride to incorporate environmental subjects, with focused workshops in Clermont-Ferand (2000), Leicester (2002), Siena (2004), Paris (2006), and Berlin (2008) and sessions at ESEH and EAUH helping to develop the subfield.

The field has continued to grow into the second decade of the twenty-first century. In his review of theses for *Urban History* in 2010, Stéphane Frioux argued that, while urban-environmental history was a marginal theme in conferences and journals dedicated to urban and environmental history, he hoped that the work of early career scholars at the time would introduce 'more green thinking' into traditional urban history topics. This has been the case - in recent years work in urban-environmental history has pushed topics such as planning, public health, and civic culture amongst others in new and different directions. Urban-environmental history has also developed beyond North America and Europe, with cities in Africa, Asia, South America and Australia gaining increasing prominence. The 50th anniversary of *Urban History* provides a timely opportunity to reflect on how urban-environmental history has evolved and how continued engagement with environmental history is developing the field in different ways and a chance to think about how we might further develop the history of cities within an environmental framework.

7c: From regeneration 'failures' to 'useable pasts': memory and *Willow Room*
heritage in Scotland's new urban social history
Chair: Aaron Andrews (University of Leicester)

Community action and enterprise on the urban fringe: Castlemilk and Cumbernauld in the 1990s
Valerie Wright, (University of Glasgow)

Between the 1950s and 1970s thousands of Glasgow's inhabitants left their often overcrowded homes in inner-city tenement neighbourhoods to begin new lives in new built peripheral housing estates and in nearby new towns on the urban fringe of the city. This relocation, led by regional policy aimed at de-centralisation of population and industry, has had long term and profound consequences for those who chose to move as well as for policy decisions made in West Central Scotland to the present day. While the new towns consistently remained a priority for government investment in Scotland as they acted as economic growth poles, the same was not true for Glasgow's peripheral estates. Therefore, this paper considers community responses to two very different forms of Conservative government policy intervention on Glasgow's urban fringe in the 1990s. Castlemilk, one of Glasgow's four large peripheral estates, was selected in 1989 as one of four beneficiaries of 'New Life For Urban Scotland', a government led initiative which attempted through a multi-agency approach to create regeneration partnerships which ran for a decade. The aim was environmental improvement but also the promotion of enterprise and community business. Meanwhile in Cumbernauld, designated in 1955 to absorb 'overspill' from Glasgow, thegovernment's enterprise culture was fully embraced in the 1990s by Cumbernauld Development Corporation acting on behalf of perceived aspirational citizens. In Castlemilk the community response essentially subverted the government's agenda and highlighted the agency of community groups in engaging on their own terms. Meanwhile community action in Cumbernauld took the form of organised charitable bodies arguing for the maintenance of environmental standards and employment opportunities in the town. Drawing on oral history narratives and archival sources this paper will highlight how the similarities and differences in community responses in differing contexts on Glasgow's urban fringe in the 1990s holds lessons for communities today and in the future.

Community ownership of regeneration? Insight from Scotland's community business movement
Gill Murray (Glasgow Caledonian University)

Established by a group of community development workers with the support of local councillors and regeneration funding in the late 1970s, Scotland's community business movement, became a cornerstone of Scotland's modern social economy. Drawing on the writings of John Pearce, archival research, and oral histories with community business pioneers elucidates how the movement grappled with the effects of deindustrialisation and the encroachment of neoliberalism on their ambitions for community-led economic development. This paper will focus on the movement's advocacy for community ownership and how the built environment of Scotland's industrial era was redeveloped as Workspaces as part of aspirations for for community-led job creation. Revisiting the legacy of the community business movement as a regeneration 'failure', highlights important historical continuities in

the era of deindustrialisation as contests over (community) ownership found novel arenas of expression in 'new' Scotland.

Shifts and Realignments on the Periphery in Edinburgh 1960 – 2000
Aaron Colin Sheridan (University of Strathclyde)

Following the Second World War, a new wave of council housebuilding saw the composition of Scotland's cities dramatically change. Where once tenement housing provided accommodation for rich and poor alike, new forms such as high-rise blocks, semi-detached homes and maisonettes came to dominate housebuilding until the election of the Thatcher government. Change was seen too by fluctuating sexual politics, processes of deindustrialisation and the growing consumer economy.

What did this all mean for working-class people? Focusing on Greater Pilton, a peripheral housing scheme in Edinburgh, this paper presents an oral and social history of the changing culture, social mores and identities present in late-twentieth century Scotland's council housing estates. Through both archival work and life-history interviews, it will explore what these new homes meant for tenants used to slum conditions, the lifestyles they enabled them to pursue or attain and ways people interacted in the new neighbourhoods of the twentieth century. It will also detail the narratives of these schemes, both those promoted in 'official' sources and those given by long-term residents, how each of these differ and which events they attribute to the schemes' declining reputations in the last decades of the century.

The 'movements and transitions' discussed in this paper are both personal and social and much of the analysis will involve linking the two, contrasting them and discussing the interactions between wider movements and personal transitions.

7d: New directions in Ghana's urban past *Maple Room*
Chair: Waseem Bin-Kasim (Elon University)

Sound, Space, and Social Relations in Colonial Sekondi, c. 1900-1920
Nate Plageman (Wake Forest University)

In 1898, the Gold Coast government embarked on an ambitious program of city-building at Sekondi, a coastal settlement of a few thousand people. Like colonial city-building projects elsewhere, these British-led efforts focused on a drastic remaking of Sekondi's built environment through large-scale infrastructural works. By 1910, the city was home to an expansive collection of railway lines and workshops, a new lighterage harbor, and a series of newly-erected offices, storefronts, and buildings: a built environment that colonial officials paraded as the city's defining elements. In this paper, I privilege not the physical landscape built by the colonial state, but the auditory landscape that emerged within its wake. Specifically, I seek to understand how Sekondi residents not only heard the city built by the state, but created their own sonic strategies to be heard within its confines. Centering my attention on the ways in which city residents used music to contest colonial urban logics, I seek to give serious analytical purchase to residents' claims that sonic activities offered them a means of shaping the city's ongoing making: that music was a means by which they could

recompose city space. At the same time, I seek to expose the ways in which historians of urban Ghana (and urban Africa more widely) can use sound and music- making to reconstruct African peoples' urban imaginaries. Music, I hope to show, is a way to reconstruct the "perceived, conceived, and lived" spatialities (Lefebvre, 1991) that defined colonial urban life.

What is in a Name?: Nima's *Harlem Café* and the Making of Cosmopolitan Accra
Fauziyatu Moro (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

On January 21, 1967, Nima– a town in Ghana's capital, Accra, was featured in the "It's Great to be Young" column of the Ghanaian Times newspaper. The columnist, Cassius Nimbus, began his exposition titled "A Night Show at Nima" with the opening words "If a man is fed up with Accra let him try tasting the night life in Nima". In what followed, Nimbus segued into a description of the theatrical performance of a Jacobean play he saw in the town's Harlem Café. This café, which was built in the early 1950s, is suggestive of Accra's transnational and cosmopolitan posture as well as the Gold Coast's (now Ghana) Pan-African spirit, which begs the question: how did this café in a Muslim migrant town sitting along the margins of Accra contribute to the Pan-African cosmopolitanism that is so often associated with the capital city? In response to the titular question, my paper reimagines Pan-Africanism in Accra from the standpoint of the built space of the Harlem Café and the town in which it was located. It tells a social history of Pan-Africanism in Accra from below and demonstrates how the leisure exploits ordinary citizens of the city reconfigured its social, urban, and political landscape.

"We have badly let them down": British Extractive Capitalism, Race, and the Contradictions of Urban Planning in South-western Ghana
E. Sasu Kwame Sewordor (University of Basel)

In the 1930s, financial interests or investments in mechanised goldmining in south-western colonial Ghana were revamped and some existing concessions were (re)operationalised. The resulting urban transformations in the mines, described by one observer as "a hive of modern industry", however did not translate into the housing and urban planning needs of most African urban residents. By broadly tracing official colonial concerns about housing for African labourers and urban planning in the mining hinterlands around WWII, this paper reconstructs various administrative responses adopted by colonial officials to manage these increasingly urbanizing industrial spaces—which were mainly demarcated into two areas supervised by state officials and company management. The areas were respectively called mining health area(s) and mining area(s), which became the basis upon which colonial officials experimented with various urban planning approaches throughout the 1940s. Commonly though, these experiments were set back by inconsistent regulatory laws, the evasiveness of mine managers to provide housing for their African labourers, and contestations of official urban planning schemes by Africans. Long after WWII, the colonial state failed to craft a coherent policy to deal with the housing and endemic urban planning problems. By the 1950s, when this paper closes, the lingering problems were passed on to new Urban Councils run by African men—thus indicating stark contradictions between the

supposed promises of modernity, symbolised by mechanised goldmining, and unearthing an ambiguous discourse in which informality became a spatial manifestation of racialised mining capitalism.

8a: Urban theory of, for, and by urban historians: the state of a *Chestnut Room*
two-year conversation at the Global Urban History Project

Panel members: *Carl Nightingale (University of Buffalo), Rosemary Wakeman (Fordham University), Alexia Yates (University of Manchester)*

This roundtable considers the evolving role urban theory has played in the way we produce urban history, in this case global urban history. What has changed over the years in the way historians use theory to understand the urban nexus? What are the gains and pitfalls of using theory and what role has the Global Urban History Project played in assessing these issues?

8b: Infrastructural transitions in London, Toronto and Delhi *Birch Room*
Chair: Louise Miskell (University of Swansea)

The geographies of socio-technical transitions in railway infrastructure in London circa 1900
Carlos López Galviz (Lancaster University)

'In the modern world', H. J. Dyos wrote in *The Victorian City* (1973), 'the path of progress has been an urban one […] the urbanisation of the whole population is an index, however crude, of rising standards of material welfare. Here is a measure of our civilisation.' While the relationship between modernity and progress is one at the centre of several critiques of recent and past urban histories, the connection which Dyos saw across rising living standards, urbanisation and civilisation are of continued relevance today. The three key global messages at the UN Habitat III conference in 2015, to take but one example, highlighted in turn: the historical role of urbanization as 'a major driver of development and poverty reduction'; the role that cities and new technologies can play in national economies and global development; and that the early 21st century is a 'time to think urban' (UN Habitat 2017). The telos and agency given to urbanisation and technology by the UN and bodies like the World Economy Forum diverges significantly from how urban historians understand change in the past: in cities themselves, in relation to their hinterlands, and across the networks of which they are a part.

This paper will offer a reflection on the risks, challenges and opportunities of connecting our understanding of the urban past to reductive views of what the urban future holds. I will do so by contextualising what scholars of science and technology call 'socio-technical transitions', with a focus on infrastructural transitions and what they reveal of the transition from steam to electric traction in the operation of the early 20th-century London railways. The paper demonstrates the significance of placing 'system-building' (Hughes 1985), that related to new transport technologies, in the broader context of demographic change, suburban expansion and the availability (or not) of affordable housing and transport, key trends for Londoners circa 1900. London's population growth in the last two decades of the nineteenth century was highest in Willesden (northwest), Tottenham (north), Leyton

(northeast) and West Ham (east). These were the four areas which experienced the most rapid population growth in Great Britain during this period and in what was at the time the largest metropolis in the world. When we look closely at London around 1900, we discover that the geography of metropolitan growth not always matched the geography of what new transport technologies had to offer, let alone what the infrastructural transition from steam to electricity meant for residents, authorities, and contemporary commentators who saw change in their own terms.

Apartment infrastructures and apartments as infrastructure
Richard Dennis (University College London)

Histories of the development of early apartment houses often have two foci. One is technological, identifying successive improvements, in water supply, waste disposal, fireproofing, the installation of lifts, electrification and steel frame construction, which made the building of apartment blocks and, later, towers increasingly feasible. The 'improvements' could also be financial – new forms of financing involving syndicates, insurance companies and other corporate developers, if not in ownership of the buildings themselves, then in the ownership of mortgages. A kind of infrastructural possibilism, if not quite infrastructural determinism. A second focus is on demographic, social and cultural demand involving new types of household – bachelors and spinsters wanting more than a room in a boarding house or as a lodger in someone else's house, widows wishing (or obliged) to live alone rather than with children, childless married couples, households reacting to the dearth of domestic servants as alternative employment opportunities became more attractive to young women. But we can also imagine a demand, not just from individuals, but from cities – the apartment house as an amenity that every go-ahead city should have, in effect, the apartment house as part of the city's infrastructure.

This paper examines these two ways of thinking about infrastructure – the infrastructure of the apartment, and the apartment as infrastructure – adding both spatial and temporal dimensions, by considering how the infrastructure of, and embodied in, apartment buildings varied between London and Toronto, and between the earliest developments (from mid-nineteenth-century in London, from the very beginning of the twentieth century in Toronto) through to buildings erected in the 1920s and 1930s. I will also consider ways in which these veteran and vintage apartments have become part of the infrastructure of heritage, gentrification and regeneration at the present day.

My method will be to examine promotional material and advertisements for apartment buildings in newspapers, trade journals and (for the present day) online. This will not be a systematic or scientific sample, but a selection from materials I have been collecting for over thirty years while working on the historical geography of apartment buildings in the two cities. At the very least, it should provoke questions about what kinds of infrastructure were expected or promoted, and how apartment buildings featured in the technological, socio-cultural and financial infrastructure of cities.

As an epilogue, I will reflect briefly on historical research as a form of infrastructure serving present-day planning discourse. In my own case, my research on Toronto apartment history has been quoted to lend support for a variety of causes – women-only apartments,

housing cooperatives, densification, conservation, plugging the 'missing middle' and the perceived iniquities of exclusionary zoning. In the process, the complexity I sought to convey is invariably reduced to highly selective and partisan sound-bites which suit particular political or cultural perspectives. Perhaps that is the nature of infrastructure. It is flexible enough to support a variety of contradictory uses.

Monumental transformation: the changing perception of Sarai Pipal Thala in historical and social memory
Anubhav Pradhan (Indian Institute of Technology Bhilai) & Rachna Mehra (Ambedkar University Delhi)

Delhi's many monuments are protected to varying degrees by conservation laws inherited from a protectionist framework which seeks to envelop them in an ossifying veil of heritage divorced from the lived experience of the city and its residents. As sites onto which various state and civic governmentalities concentrate their varying visions, these monuments often become markers of a collective identity: they act as tangible bodies performing, reflecting, and inflecting multiple discourses of cultural and national selfhoods. These notions of the self, as much ascribed to as emanating from these monuments, allow affective and communitarian claims by residents and local communities which create wholly unprecedented contours of meaning around them. Considering, then, the effect and affect of the eighteenth-century caravanserai at Pipal Thala, this paper will draw upon archival and ethnographic work to not just reflect on how Delhi's built, monumental heritage came to be but also how it often—as in this instance—informs the entangled, experiential infrastructure of its vicinity and of the city at large.

This capital city bears witness to rich material culture and built forms from bygone eras which seem to be grappling with contemporary civic and political problems rooted in urbanization. The presence of historical monuments has to contend with the ever expanding needs of infrastructure to accommodate the demographic upsurge. On the one hand the apathy towards monuments is evident from the neglect, defacement, dilapidation and encroachment that occurs on a day to day basis, on the other, their presence was perceived as a hindrance for the development of mass rapid transit system known as Delhi Metro which is by far the largest and busiest metro rail system in India connecting places within Delhi and cities in the National Capital Region. This paper will look at fundamental questions on the evolving nature of monumentality, public memory, the value of affect and heritage in the making of contemporary cityhood. Beginning with sarais as public spaces with varying legacies of habitation and belonging, it will explore the evolving contours of identity and affect with specific reference to Sarai Pipal Thala in Delhi. How do some structures become monuments? In what ways is ownership of such buildings differentiated from the sense of belonging they evoke, the identities they shape? What does it mean to be tangible, built heritage in socio-economic milieus of incessant construction, demolition, and redevelopment? The paper proposes to address these questions with close reference to Delhi as a capital and historical city which has witnessed infrastructural transition at a startling pace and is known for settlement history in excess of a millennium.

8c: Emotional experiences of urban spaces *Willow Room*
Chair: Rebecca Madgin (University of Glasgow)

Blinded by the Light: Emotional and Behavioural Consequences of Nineteenth-Century Street Lighting
Sarah Collins (Newcastle University)

This paper examines the emergence and impact of a fundamentally urban experience – artificial lighting – and its relationship to another fundamentally urban experience – fear of the city at night. Prior to the adoption of electric lighting, street lamps had a limited radius of luminosity due to reliance on oil and gas fuels, creating deeper shadows than modern populations are accustomed to. Night-time was a period of heightened fear for many and while experiences of nyctophobia can be difficult to determine, we can look at the practical measures that were undertaken in cities – namely the installation of street lighting - as an emotional and behavioural consequence of personal safety concerns.

The social geography of light and darkness has often been framed as an economic inconvenience that mirrored existing nineteenth-century inequalities. While this may be true, it has resulted in understandings of street lighting that are limited to presence and absence. By comparison, literary descriptions by nineteenth century authors, such as Arthur Conan Doyle, frame urban experiences of the night in terms of complex diffusions of light. This paper highlights new research, which is situated within the relatively new field of 'Night Studies' and maps street lighting and crime in American and British cities to identify complex micro-geographies of luminescence that determined how different city dwellers experienced and inhabited the night.

Ephemeral Entities – Linking place and space through paper in fin de siècle Europe
Ann-Marie Foster (Northumbria University)

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries ephemera – small, transient, pieces of paper – allowed people glimpses into the urban lives of others. Ephemera which bore images, such as postcards and pictorial newspapers, were a relative novelty and highly popular at the turn of the century. Between 1900 and 1910 it is estimated that anywhere between one and three million were sent in the post everyday. Through the production of images of urban spaces, people could access the imagined realm of travel without leaving their own urban area, emotionally investing in pictorial understandings of the spaces friends and family inhabited.

This sense of emotional connection between people and place was only heightened during the First World War, when people sent images of towns and cities to loved ones. These pieces of ephemera were produced in urban areas like the ones they depicted, linking the making of these home-reminiscent items to a complex urban setting which was the producer of both emotions and memory aids. But while pieces of ephemera could make people feel closer to their loved ones, it also had the power to unnerve. After industrial accidents and during the First World War people bore witness to the destruction of the urban landscape, sending and receiving postcards and buying illustrated newspapers which depicted the destruction of European cities. This paper explores the complex role that pictorial

ephemera held in urban spaces, and how, through destructive events, these pieces of paper acted as a communal bridge through which Europeans could reimagine their urban landscape, and the urban landscape of others.

'Don't Call Them Homes': memories of mother and baby institutions in Northern Ireland
Olivia Dee (Queen's University Belfast)

This paper looks at unmarried mothers and their choices in Northern Ireland, during the latter half of the 20th century, using original oral histories collected over the past three years. Unmarried mothers, often in rural locations, found themselves with little or no choice over their future, as family members, religious officials and members of the community often worked together to conceal the pregnancy and to arrange for adoptions. As a result of the pregnancy, these women were often sent to 'Mother and Baby 'homes'' in cities away from home, institutions that would, for many, shatter their concept of what home even was. This paper will use these case studies to look at how unmarried mothers navigated this onslaught of societal shame, and how they navigated the concepts of family and home once the traditional meaning of these words was drastically interrupted. This analysis will include familial responses to the pregnancy, the development of the pregnancy, how homelife changed because of the pregnancy, and life after the birth. It will also examine the long-term physical and mental ramifications of these pregnancies, and how these women constructed their own homes over the course of their lives. The experience of Northern Irish unmarried mothers differs from any other, because these women experienced compounding and intersecting traumas of patriarchal societal norms, reinforced by on-going political and religious divisions. On both sides of this sectarian and political divide were deeply conservative, repressive gender and reproductive expectations, which in itself altered the nature of the urban experience during this period.