



WORLD

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

**HISTORICAL  
CITIES**

NO. 20: Special Issue 2000

**the 7th World Conference of  
Historical Cities  
in Montpellier, FRANCE  
July 5th - 8th**

*the 20th issue of World Historical Cities  
in the year of 2000*

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## Preface



Chairperson  
of the League of Historical Cities  
Mayor of Kyoto

*Yorikane Masumoto*

I feel very delighted to publish the 20th issue of "World Historical Cities", the bulletin of the League of Historical Cities, in this commemorative year of 2000.

In 1987, the first Conference was held in Kyoto. In order to continue holding the conference and promote exchange between the participating cities, the World Conference of Historical Cities Council was established. The 26 cities which participated in the 1st Conference were the original member cities of this Council.

On the occasion of the 4th World Conference of Historical Cities, held again in Kyoto in 1994, in order to further strengthen the foundation of the World Conference of Historical Cities it was decided to reorganize and develop the existing Council to form an expanded League of Historical Cities with new member cities.

Currently, the League of Historical Cities consists of 60 cities from 48 countries. "World Historical Cities" has been published in order to facilitate the exchange of information concerning

our common challenge. That is, how to achieve a balance between the contradictory goals of historical preservation and urban modernization.

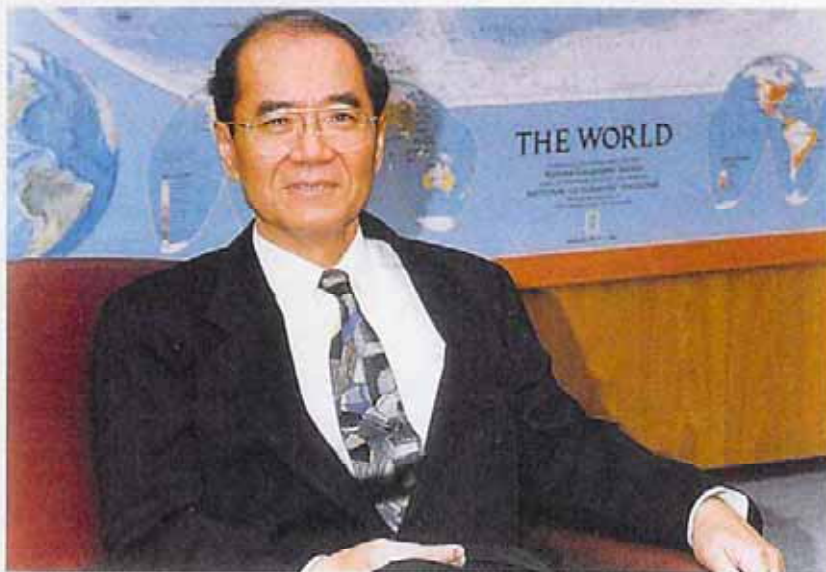
I have been engaged in city planning and renovation to be in the forefront in the new millennium making the best use of the wisdom of historical city.

This, the 20th issue, is published as a special commemorative edition and features summaries of member city reports which appeared in past bulletins.

The 7th World Conference of Historical Cities will be held in Montpellier, France in July. As a chairperson of the League of Historical Cities, I am quite sure that this Conference will be successful with many cities' participation.

I am looking forward to meeting you in Montpellier.

Preface



Director General of UNESCO  
*Koichiro Matsuura*

The future of humanity is irrevocably linked to the city. With more than two-thirds of the world population expected to become urban dwellers by the year 2020, the political, economic and cultural fate of humankind will depend on what we, as citizens, make of our cities.

Through the World Historical Cities Newsletter, I call upon the Mayors and the inhabitants of the world's most renown and prestigious cities to set the global trend of living in harmony with our environment, both the built and the natural, and to live in full awareness of our intergenerational responsibility. Whether they be palaces, places of worship, gardens, or simple dwellings or streets, these structures are imbued with memories of the past.

They may not always be glorious or joyful, many are of hardship and suffering, of the cruelty of humankind....

But without such memories, the buildings, street patterns, the public squares and all that gives each city its special character, will be meaningless. The past must be a lesson for the future, the ingenious creations of our forefathers witnessed in the bodies of our cities can only become alive when matched by contemporary cultural expressions which in turn must inspire future creativity. The continuity of human civilization, from the past through the present and into the future, is the essence of sustainable development.

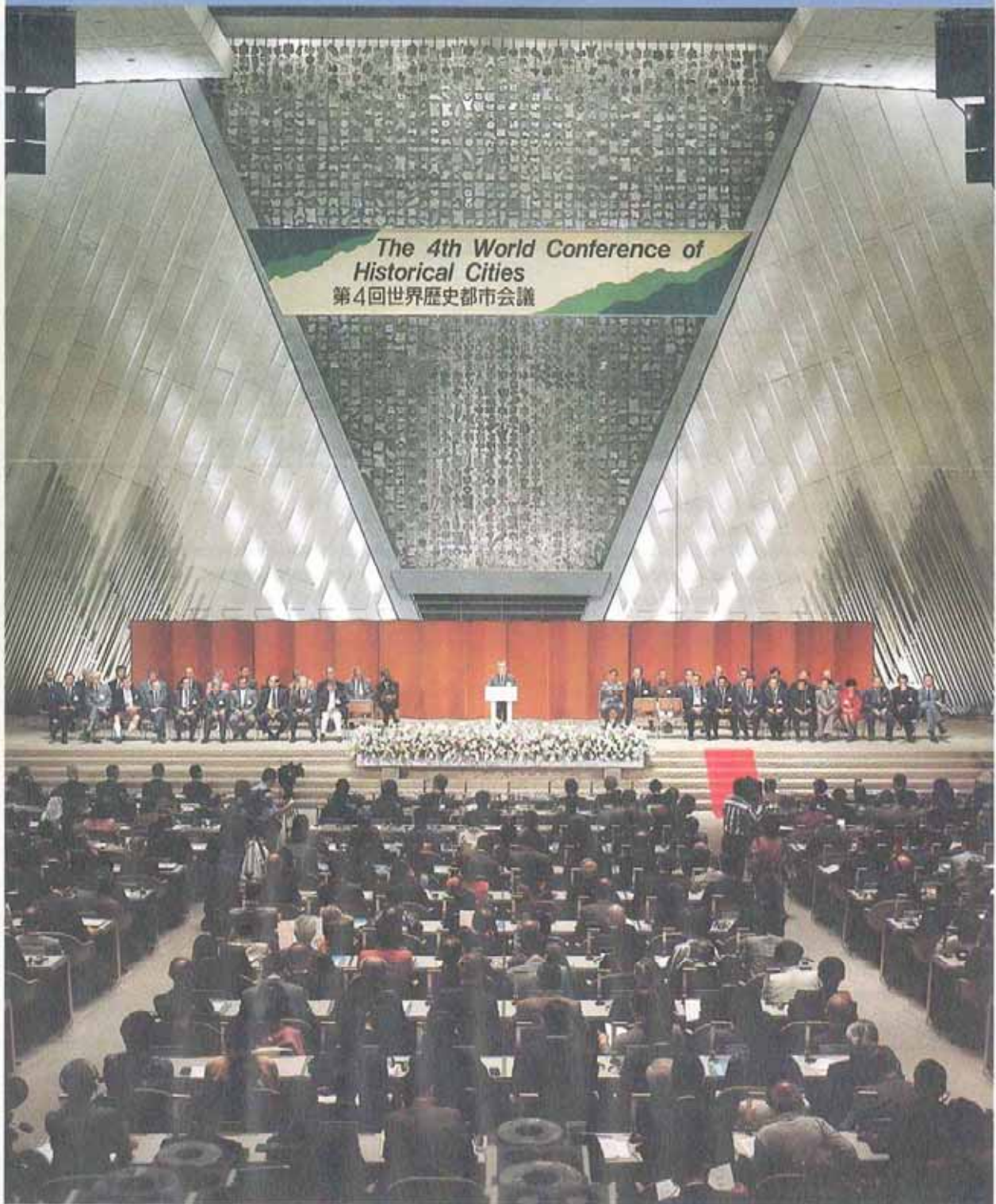
It would not be an exaggeration to say that the 60 city members of the League of Historical Cities collectively hold the knowledge of humanity in all its splendour and in all its shame. UNESCO stands by you to share this knowledge, democratically and equitably to the citizens of today and of tomorrow.

WORLD

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

# HISTORICAL CITIES

NO. 1: SUMMER, 1994





## THE 4TH WORLD CONFERENCE OF HISTORICAL CITIES

The 4th World Conference of Historical Cities was held successfully from April 25-28 of this year, at the Kyoto International Conference Hall. With 45 cities from 40 countries attending, the highest ever, this year's conference, one of the main events held in commemoration of the Kyoto 1200th Celebration, was a complete success and much was achieved during the four days.

At the opening ceremony, held in the afternoon of the first day in the Main Hall, about 1,600 Kyoto residents were in attendance. The ceremony commenced with a unique performance of Japanese traditional music. Representatives of participating historical cities assembled on stage, each greeting one another in their own language.

Following this, the mayor of Kyoto gave a keynote lecture stating that, "It is time for us historical cities to contribute to the world and to build a bright future for the human race, by applying the accumulated wisdom of our historical cities, it has been made clear through this series of conferences. And exchanges between cities across national boundaries will be a major contribution to the peace and prosperity of the human

race in the 21st century."

"Rather than limiting exchanges among our cities to conferences held once every few years, I propose that we should aim for more continued activities to deepen our exchanges, building on our shared wisdom to bear even richer fruit. There is a need to pool information on our various projects and achievements, which will then be common property to serve in the preservation of our historical heritage, and my hope is that we can make progress towards this goal. Specifically, I propose the setting up a League of Historical Cities."

Following the speech, each of the 45 cities were introduced in a slide show. The opening ceremony was closed with a Noh play performance.

During the 2nd and 3rd days of the conference, in three sessions, each of the participating cities reported on problems they are facing, how these problems are being approached and what their general feelings about these problems were. On both of these days, heated discussions resulted between members that went on well past the day's schedule.

### Future World Conferences of Historical Cities & Related Matters

During the General Assembly of the World Conference of Historical Cities Council (on the morning of Wednesday, April 27), Xian (People's Republic of China) and Cracow (Republic of Poland) were chosen as the sites for the 5th and

6th World Conference of Historical Cities respectively. The 5th conference will be held in 1996, followed by the 6th conference in 1998.

## On the Foundation of the League of Historical Cities

The foundation of a League of Historical Cities, mentioned in the keynote lecture by Mayor Tanabe, was decided on at the General Assembly of the World Conference of Historical Cities Council. Moreover, during the Kyoto City presentation, "A New Development in the World Conference of Historical Cities," during Session III, Mayor Tanabe spoke further on the necessity of a League of Historical Cities. Recommendation for the formation of such a league received approval during the General Discussion from all participating cities. Quoted below is a summary report concerning the League of Historical Cities.

### 1) Aims

Our purpose in forming this League is to contribute to the realization of eternal world peace so desired for the future of mankind by all people everywhere; we propose to do so by forming an organization which builds mutual trust by transcending national boundaries to strengthen affiliations between cities. Our aim is to make use of this coming together of cities for the World Conference of Historical Cities in order to also establish a forum enabling further exchange between the participating cities: not only for the period during which this conference convenes, but on an ordinary, everyday basis as well; and not merely with respect to issues unique to historical cities, but also with respect to issues such as government, citizen's lifestyles, and so forth.

### 2) Background

In 1987, the city of Kyoto proposed the World Conference of Historical Cities and the first conference was held in Kyoto. In order to continue holding the conference and promote exchange

between the participating cities, the World Conference of Historical Cities Council was established with all 26 cities attending the conference as members. Since Kyoto had initially proposed the conference, the Council's secretariat was set up in Kyoto and the mayor was appointed chairman. Kyoto has also borne all the office's expenses.

On the occasion of the 4th World Conference of Historical Cities, held again in Kyoto, it was decided to reorganize and develop the existing Council to form an expanded League of Historical Cities with new member cities which would be able to solve the outstanding problems.

### 3) Members

The initial members of the League will be the current members of the Council (25 cities) and the cities attending the 4th World Conference of Historical Cities.

### 4) Secretariat

Since it has done so from the outset, Kyoto will be responsible for the secretariat.

### 5) Expenses

For the time being, the city of Kyoto will continue to bear the expenses of the secretariat.

### 6) Interim Plan of Operation

The by-laws and future projects of the League will be planned by the secretariat and consolidated at the next conference in Xian in 1996.

## Unanimous Adoption of the "Kyoto Appeal"

During the General Discussion and Closing Session, there was an urgent proposal for the "Kyoto Appeal" from the representative from Paris. The proposal was adopted unanimously. The "Kyoto Appeal" message, printed in full below, was sent directly to the United Nations, Dubrovnik, Vukovar and Sarajevo from the secretariat in Kyoto.

### The Kyoto Appeal

The representatives of the historical cities of the world, who have gathered in Kyoto, "The City of Peace," for the Fourth World Conference of Historical Cities, must not forget their obligation as human beings, cities and governments to protect and defend the existence, the heart and spirit of historical cities.

The delegates should bear in mind that cities such as Dubrovnik, Vukovar and Sarajevo, which have been seriously damaged, are also a part of human heritage.

We offer them our message of support, hope and solidarity.

## The League of Historical Cities List

Accra (Republic of Ghana)	Fez (Kingdom of Morocco)	Montreal (Canada)
Alexandria (Arab Republic of Egypt)	Florence (Republic of Italy)	Nanjing (People's Republic of China)
Amsterdam (Kingdom of the Netherlands)	Guadalajara (United Mexican States)	Paris (French Republic)
Athens (Hellenic Republic)	Hanoi (Socialist Republic of Viet Nam)	Prague (Czech Republic)
Barcelona (Spain)	Islahan (Islamic Republic of Iran)	Quebec (Canada)
Bordeaux (French Republic)	Istanbul (Republic of Turkey)	Rio de Janeiro (Federative Republic of Brazil)
Boston (United States of America)	Jerusalem (State of Israel)	Rome (Republic of Italy)
Bratislava (Slovak Republic)	Kaesong (Democratic People's Republic of Korea)	Tashkent (Republic of Uzbekistan)
Brussels (Kingdom of Belgium)	Katmandu (Kingdom of Nepal)	Tunis (Republic of Tunisia)
Budapest (Republic of Hungary)	Kiev (Ukraine)	Ulan Bator (Mongolia)
Chiang Mai (Kingdom of Thailand)	Kyongju (Republic of Korea)	Varanasi (India)
Cologne (Federal Republic of Germany)	Kyoto (Japan)	Vienna (Republic of Austria)
Cracow (Republic of Poland)	Lahore (Islamic Republic of Pakistan)	Xian (People's Republic of China)
Cuzco (Republic of Peru)	Lisbon (Portuguese Republic)	Yogyakarta (Republic of Indonesia)
Dublin (Ireland)	Melbourne (Australia)	Zagreb (Republic of Croatia)
Edinburgh (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)	Mexico City (United Mexican States)	Zurich (Swiss Confederation)

## Other 4th Conference Events

### 1) Accompanying Persons' Program

On Tuesday, April 26th, the spouses of representatives and other delegates toured the city, observing the design and production of traditional Kyoto crafts and other aspects of Japanese daily life. Activities included watching the production of braid and wire-netting, instruction in holding fans and yuzen dyeing.

Following the kimono show, participants had a chance to put on and wear a kimono in a Japanese garden, where they were photographed. These photographs will hopefully serve as special reminders of their stay in Japan's traditional craft capital. In the afternoon, they toured the 400-year-old Nishiki market, a 3-meter-wide, 400-meter-long covered street, where about 130 shops sell high quality fresh foods, and then visited local department stores, where they observed aspects of ordinary daily life in Kyoto and enjoyed a bit of shopping.



### 2) Public Forum

Beginning at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26th, a Public Forum with the participation of 300 Kyoto citizens was held at Kyoto Kaikan Hall. At the Public Forum, the chairman of the planning committee of the 4th World Conference of Historical Cities, Shumpei Ueyama, who is also president of Kyoto City University of Arts, gave a lecture titled, "Kyoto 1200th

Celebration and World Conference of Historical Cities." Following his speech, a superb introductory presentation with some slides was given by three city representatives: Mr. Norman Irons (Lord Provost of Edinburgh), Mr. Leonid Kosakivskiy (Mayor of Kiev) and Mr. Jozef Lassota (Mayor of Cracow).

### 3) Nijo Castle Garden Luncheon Party

On Wednesday the 27th of April, a garden luncheon party was held at Seiryu-en, the famed garden of Nijo Castle. Nijo Castle was built by the first Tokugawa shogun, Ieyasu, as a protective garrison of the Kyoto Imperial Palace and Kyoto residence for the shogun. The Ninomaru Palace within the castle complex has a set of sliding doors which are a National Treasure, as well as a wide range of splendid examples of 16th century Japanese arts and culture.

Seiryu-en, the venue for the luncheon party, has two tea houses — one set in a traditionally landscaped Japanese garden, the other in a western-style lawn garden. In the lawn garden, 200 kindergarten children welcomed conference participants at the beginning of the luncheon party. The event, held under beautiful weather conditions, included a *koto* performance and a tea ceremony by the Midorikai of Urasenke, Japan's most distinguished tea ceremony school.



### 4) Excursion

On Thursday the 28th of April, the final day of the conference, 5 buses were provided to give visitors a tour of Kyoto's better known shrines and temples, as well as a close-up look at several of the city's representative traditional and modern industries.

Many of the participants, upon completing the tour, felt that Kyoto was not only a city with a long history, but also one which was clearly developing to enter the 21st century as a modern and progressive center.



WORLD

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

# HISTORICAL CITIES

NO. 2: AUTUMN, 1994



Shijo Bridge and surroundings (circa 1920)



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## Historical Kyoto

The transition from ancient capital to 20th century urban center

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Kitano Tenmangu Shrine grounds (circa 1920)

In 1869, just five years after the Hamaguri Gomon War in which artillery guns caused numerous large-scale fires in Kyoto, the news that the city had ceased to be the nation's capital shocked the nation. Almost overnight, Tokyo became Japan's new capital. Within a very short time, the nobility, important government officials and powerful merchants aligned with the Imperial family packed up and moved to Tokyo. Many areas, full of abandoned family residences, took on a deserted feeling. In shock, the city was permeated by an atmosphere of empty quiet and confusion.

Faced with the challenge of major historical change, Kyoto citizens made far reaching, progressive plans for a new

future. With industrial aid from the new central government, the Kyoto prefectural and city governments energetically established a broad, local manufacturing and industrial infrastructure. At the same time, the layout of the city, which had hardly changed since the middle ages, was extensively altered. Further, remarkable and revolutionary educational reforms were undertaken, resulting in one of the nation's first district school systems, and major advances in secondary and female education. Kyoto was also successful in establishing the only other imperial university (present-day Kyoto University) outside of Tokyo.

In 1894, Kyoto celebrated its 1100th anniversary with the 4th World Industrial Exposition and announced to the world at large that the city was much more than just the former capital of Japan. In an astonishingly short time, the city had transformed itself from being a feudal city to a pioneering center for industrial modernization and educational reform.

Kyoto was the first Japanese city to have a power station and street lights, made possible by the genius of the Biwako Canal hydroelectric project. The city was also the first to complete an extensive local-area railroad network, a comprehensive streetcar system, and make the transition a feudal center to a functional, modern city. The present-day layout of Kyoto's city center, characterized by

medium height buildings adjacent to major roads (the basis of the street car system that was in use until the late 1960s) dates from this remarkable period of development and modernization.

Over the course of the latter part of the Meiji period (1868-1912) and early Taisho period (1912-1926), an intense concentration of banks and insurance companies rose up along on Sanjo-dori, which served as the Wall Street of Kyoto until the 1950s. All of these new companies were housed in modern, four or five story Western-style brick and stone buildings. Because these buildings were built to last for hundreds of years, Sanjo-dori was never included in street expansion projects. Today, the surrounding area is characterized by a mixture of modern buildings and traditional Japanese wooden structures called *machiya*.

Teramachi-dori, which runs south of the Sanjo at the eastern edge of the above mentioned area, had for centuries been a temple street, lined with large temple compounds. In 1872, the city government claimed much of this space for a new leisure area development centered along a new 550-meter-long street, running parallel to Teramachi, which had formerly been a park in the precincts of Seigan-ji Temple. Named Shinkyogoku, and



St. Agnes Episcopal Church (circa 1930)

bordered on both sides with modern, exciting shops, it quickly became the busiest shopping center in the city. Today, nearly 100 years later, Shinkyogoku remains one of the busiest commercial streets in the city.

Kyoto's remarkable, revolutionary development reforms during the Meiji era, lead the entire nation into a bold new era. Celebrating it's 1200th anniversary this year, the city continues to change with the times, while at the same time maintaining its ancient heritage and culture.

## League of Historical Cities' Activities

Mayor of Kyoto and Acting Chairman of the League of Historical Cities, Mr. Tanabe Tomoyuki, received an invitation for 'Meeting of the International Associations of Towns and Local Authorities' on August 17th, and for the 'International colloquium of Mayor's on Social Development' on August 18th and 19th, from the Mayor of Lisbon and Chairman of United Towns Organization, Mr. Jorge Sampaio. Mr. Tanabe dispatched two representatives from the City of Kyoto to the meetings.

The representatives attended the meetings and distributed brochures that featured a summary of the League, as well as the first issue of the League of World Historical Cities Newsletter, inform the wider public about the League and its activities. On the whole, the public responded positively and with enthusiasm.



### Meeting Information Summary

#### 1. Meeting of the International Associations of Towns and Local Authorities

**Date:** Aug. 17, 1994

**Venue:** United Nations Headquarters, New York City

**Sponsors:** United Towns Organization, International Union of Local Authorities, Metropolis, Summit Conference of Major Cities of the World

**Participants:** 50 people from associations of towns and local authorities

**Subject:** Roles that self-governing bodies of the world can take for the World Summit on Social Development to be held in April, 1995 in Copenhagen, and the Habitat II Conference to be held in June, 1996, in Istanbul.

#### 2. International Colloquium of Mayor's on Social Development

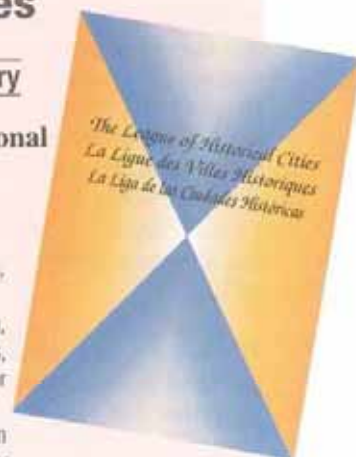
**Date:** Aug. 18 and 19, 1994

**Venue:** United Nations Headquarters, New York City

**Sponsor:** United Nations Development Program

**Participants:** 240 people from 150 cities of the world and NGOs, etc.

**Events:** Lectures, speeches by professionals and panel discussion on the following issues: Enhancement of Social Integration, Alleviation of Poverty, Expansion of Productive Employment, Sustainable Human Settlement in an Urban World.



# Hanoi

An Asian historical city struggling to preserve its past

Following is the first part in a series of feature articles on preservation and development problems faced by world historical cities and how these cities are dealing with these problems, based on speeches given at the 4th World Conference of Historical Cities.



Capital of Vietnam since 1010 and nearly one thousand years old, Hanoi has suffered and survived protracted periods of war and the unrelenting considerable damage of time itself. Despite these problems, the city has managed to maintain much of its ancient past in the Old Quarter, in particular, and in the hundreds of historical, cultural, social and religious relics that remain throughout the city. However, in making the transition to a modern city, Hanoi has also had to confront and attempt to deal with numerous economic and social difficulties.

Within the area of Hanoi there are presently about 1300 places of historical interest, among these 290 have been classified and certified for special preservation. The remaining sites are being cataloged and considered for preservation. To preserve and restore antique constructions and historical heritage sites, the State of Vietnam has created a separate file for each site and carried out a process of site by site classification for the purpose of better control. The State has also invested extensively in the repair, restoration, improvement and expansion of important historical sites. An organized system of agencies, at national and regional levels, is responsible for the study and preservation of historical vestiges, research investment, and data collection. Further, national and international seminars continue to be organized to encourage people to realize the immense importance of historical preservation.

Many international organizations, such as UNESCO, have granted financial aid for historical preservation activities. In

addition to direct investment, the State publishes guide-books that encourage and promote investment and contributions from local and international organizations, as well as tourists. However, at present, such investment and income has been insufficient to insure the required maintenance and preservation of the city's many historical vestiges, and many continue to decay.

Restoration, total or partial, is all the more difficult due to the fact that local and economically feasible technological methods are considered to be outdated and substandard for the task at hand. Moreover, the study of and data

for such historical sites is inadequate to restore them to their original state. Numerous difficulties have also arisen in trying to obtain and produce the materials necessary for certain types of restoration.



Because of the rapid economic expansion and development taking place in Vietnam at present, the traditional surroundings of important historical sites, particularly those within the precincts of the city, are decreasing in size, giving way to more and more modern and unattractive structures. To clear certain areas of such structure and enforce adequate building guidelines, so as to maintain a traditional, preserved historical atmosphere, is one of the major challenges facing city planners at present. Hanoi's Old Quarter is an excellent example of the economic and social difficulties the city faces.

Hanoi's Old Quarter dates back to the very beginnings of the city, and has always functioned as the area's primary

commercial quarter. Most of the buildings in the quarter are at least two centuries old and clearly manifests the beautiful and remarkable characteristics of Vietnamese and East Asian urbanism and architecture. For this reason, it has become a great attraction to foreign tourists and researchers.

Approximately 80 hectares in size, the Old Quarter is today the principal trading center for the city. Nevertheless, the area is urgently in need of attention and has continued to be a key, albeit problematic, element in the city's master urban plan. The greater part of the ancient houses in the area, mostly brick and wooden structures, are now running the serious risk of collapse.

Moreover, infrastructure systems in the quarter are drastically outdated, abused and inadequate, especially the water supply, drainage, and sewer systems. Repair or reconstruction of these systems is very difficult and ultimately threatens the safety of the buildings in the area. However, the greatest danger to the quarter is the changing lifestyles of the inhabitants, who want larger living spaces and improved, modern facilities. Such change, because it is privately motivated and undertaken, occurs quickly and without a permit in most cases or outside of the stipulations of the permit.

In recent years, as national economic growth increases and living standards rise, the development of the quarter, particularly that of trade and services centers has been unable to keep up with demand. This has resulted in a dangerously high population (with densities of up to 4 times that of the surrounding city areas) concentration, partially because residents are not willing to move from the quarter, which guarantees important economic benefits. Since the population and income in the quarter is high, the desire for higher, bigger residential buildings is high and rising. All these factors together suggest that the situation will, if left unchecked, get completely out of control and, in the end, do permanent damage to the quarter. To date, many national seminars and one international conference have been held in Hanoi, under the sponsorship of international organizations, to come up with measures to preserve the city's traditional urban and architectural heritage. However, progress continues to be slow when contrasted with the current economic and social change taking place in the city at present.



## The League of Historical Cities List

Accra (Republic of Ghana)  
 Alexandria (Arab Republic of Egypt)  
 Amsterdam (Kingdom of the Netherlands)  
 Athens (Hellenic Republic)  
 Barcelona (Spain)  
 Bordeaux (French Republic)  
 Boston (United States of America)  
 Bratislava (Slovak Republic)  
 Brussels (Kingdom of Belgium)  
 Budapest (Republic of Hungary)  
 Chiang Mai (Kingdom of Thailand)  
 Cologne (Federal Republic of Germany)  
 Cracow (Republic of Poland)  
 Cuzco (Republic of Peru)  
 Dublin (Ireland)  
 Edinburgh (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)  
 Fez (Kingdom of Morocco)  
 Florence (Republic of Italy)  
 Guadalajara (United Mexican States)  
 Hanoi (Socialist Republic of Viet Nam)  
 Isfahan (Islamic Republic of Iran)  
 Istanbul (Republic of Turkey)  
 Jerusalem (State of Israel)  
 Kaesong (Democratic People's Republic of Korea)  
 Katmandu (Kingdom of Nepal)  
 Kiev (Ukraine)  
 Kyongju (Republic of Korea)  
 Kyoto (Japan)  
 Lahore (Islamic Republic of Pakistan)  
 Lisbon (Portuguese Republic)  
 Melbourne (Australia)  
 Mexico City (United Mexican States)  
 Montreal (Canada)  
 Nanjing (People's Republic of China)  
 Paris (French Republic)  
 Prague (Czech Republic)  
 Quebec (Canada)  
 Rio de Janeiro (Federative Republic of Brazil)  
 Rome (Republic of Italy)  
 Tashkent (Republic of Uzbekistan)  
 Tunis (Republic of Tunisia)  
 Ulan Bator (Mongolia)  
 Varanasi (India)  
 Vienna (Republic of Austria)  
 Xian (People's Republic of China)  
 Yogyakarta (Republic of Indonesia)  
 Zagreb (Republic of Croatia)  
 Zurich (Swiss Confederation)

PREVIOUS  
CONFERENCE

*The 1st Conference*  
in Kyoto, Japan  
November 18th to 20th, 1987

theme : Historical Cities in the 21st Century  
Tradition and Creativity  
number of participating cities : 26 ( 25 countries )

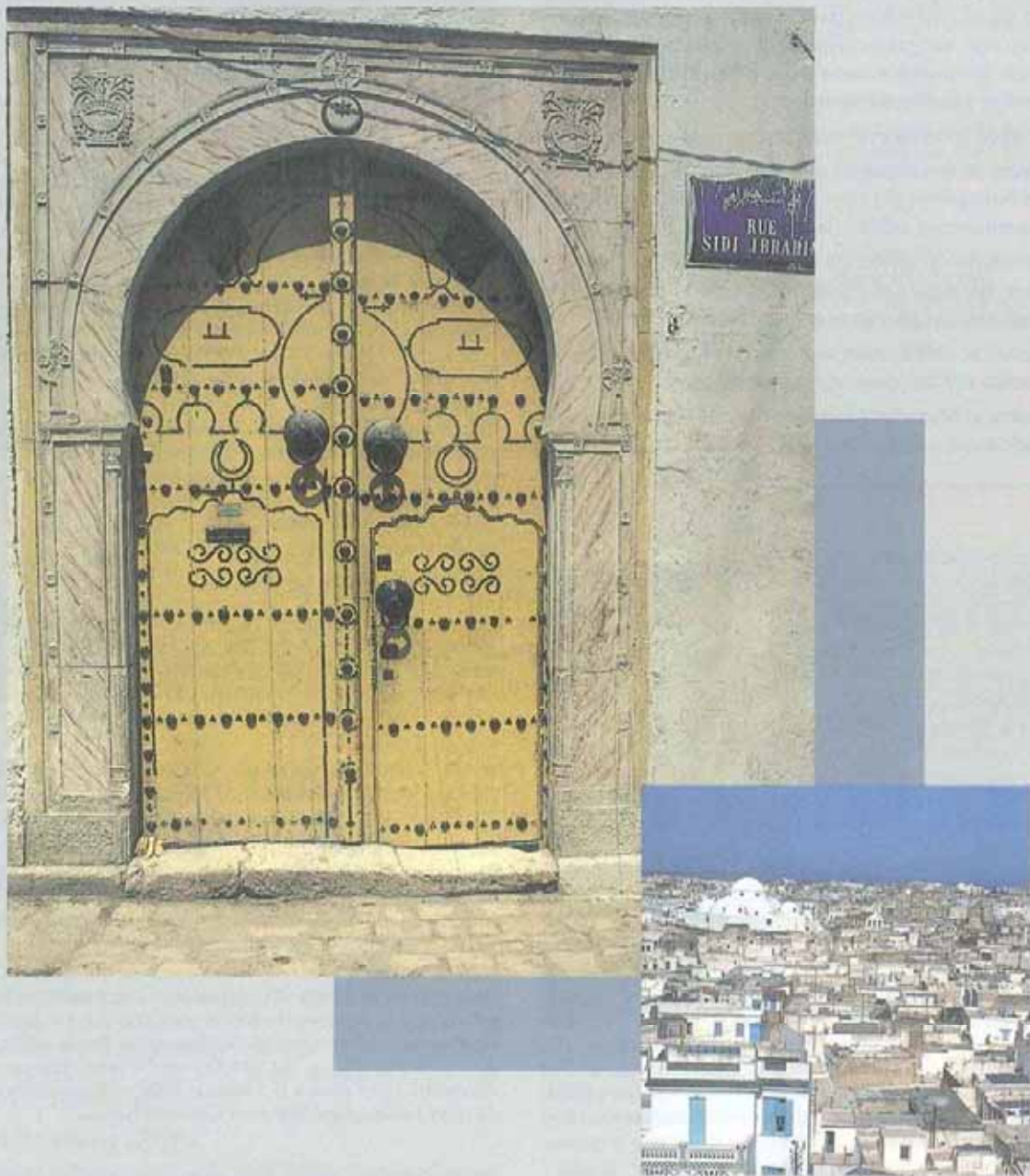


WORLD

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

# HISTORICAL CITIES

NO. 3: APRIL, 1995



## Historic Monuments of Ancient Kyoto

As a result of the 19th session of the UNESCO Intergovernmental World Heritage Committee held in Phuket, Thailand on December 15, 1994, a number of outstanding shrines, temples and castles in Kyoto, Uji and Otsu were added to the UNESCO World Heritage List. Among the 17 locations designated, 11 temples, 2 shrines and 1 castle are located within Kyoto City.

In commemoration of the designation of the following Historic Monuments of Ancient Kyoto as UNESCO World Heritage Sites, we would like to recall the people who founded Kyoto and express our profound appreciation towards them. It has long been our belief that the recognition and preservation of such assets is of extreme importance. Moreover, we would like to further promote worldwide understanding regarding the importance of:

- 1) Appropriate preservation of world heritage sites.
- 2) Promotion of special projects connected with the preservation of world heritage sites and other cultural assets, and the protection and construction of aesthetic landscapes.
- 3) Implementation of appropriate legal regulations for city planning, scenery, landscape and architecture in order to preserve world heritage sites and other precious cultural assets.
- 4) Promotion of understanding and cooperation by local citizens in connection with the preservation of cultural assets.
- 5) Promotion of international cooperation related to the preservation of world heritage sites.

### Kamigamo-jinja Shrine

This shrine was in existence as early as the 7th century, most of its present form dates back to 1628, when an attempt was made to bring it back to its original Heian Period (794-1185) appearance. Two buildings in the complex are National Treasures and 34 other buildings are Important Cultural Properties.

### Shimogamo-jinja Shrine

This shrine had taken its present form by the 8th century. Higashi Honden and Nishi Honden, both National Treasures, are typical examples of Nagare-style buildings, like those at Kamigamo-jinja Shrine. There are 31 Important Cultural Properties within in the shrine complex.

### To-ji Temple

The eastern of two Imperial temples established in 796. To-ji Temple became an esoteric Buddhist Shingon sect temple in 823. There are 4 National Treasures in the complex.

### Kiyomizu-dera Temple

First built as a private temple in 780, Kiyomizu-dera Temple was made an Imperial temple in 805. It burned down and was reconstructed several times over the centuries. Various restoration projects have been carried out at the temple since 1898. The Honden, a National Treasure, is built on a mountainside, and its front half is supported by a structure of tall wooden pillars. Eighteen properties in the complex are Important Cultural Properties.

### Daigo-ji Temple

Daigo-ji Temple comprises two precincts. Work began on the upper precinct, on top of Mt. Daigo, in 874, and on the lower, at the foot of the mountain's western slope, in 904. Six of the buildings are National Treasures and 10 others Important Cultural Properties. Sanbo-in garden is a Special Place of Scenic Beauty.

### Ninna-ji Temple

Ninna-ji was completed in 888 by Emperor Uda, who became a Buddhist priest and took up residence there after his abdication. Until the Meiji restoration (1868) the temple always had an Imperial prince as its resident head priest. The Kondo, which is a National Treasure, is of special importance in that it retains the Imperial palace style of the Momoyama Period (1568-1600). Fourteen of the other buildings are Important Cultural Properties.

### Kozan-ji Temple

This temple, founded in 774, was restored in 1206. During the wars between the 12th-16th centuries it was almost completely destroyed; it was rebuilt in 1634. The only surviving 13th century building, a National Treasure, is a residential style building characteristic of the Kamakura Period (1185-1333). The temple's 2 stone pagodas are Important Cultural Properties.

### Saicho-ji Temple

Originally founded in 731, this temple was revived as a Zen temple in 1339. The temple was destroyed in the civil war of 1469, but the basic elements of the gardens survived. Overgrown with moss that is carefully maintained, these gardens are recognized as some of the finest garden ruins in Japan. One garden is a Special Place of Scenic Beauty. The 16th century teahouse is an Important Cultural Property.

### Tenryu-ji Temple

Tenryu-ji, originally a palace founded in 1225, became a Zen temple in 1339. Its main buildings are arranged on a single axis, with a garden behind. The garden, which was designed by Muso Soseki, is a Special Place of Scenic Beauty.

### Kinkaku-ji Temple

This temple was originally a country villa of a court aristocrat, which was acquired by Shogun Ashikaga Yoshimitsu after his abdication in 1397. It was converted to a Zen Temple by Muso Soseki after the Shogun's death. The gardens are a Special Place of Scenic Beauty. The Golden Pavilion, built on the edge of a pond and decorated with gold leaf, is a National Treasure.

### Ginkaku-ji Temple

This former court villa was converted to a Zen temple after the death of Shogun Ashikaga Yoshimasa, who built it in 1482. The garden, a Special Place of Scenic Beauty, has existed in its present form, with a central pond surrounded by carefully selected rocks and trees, since 1615. The Ginkaku, a two story pavilion, and another building are National Treasures.

### Ryoan-ji Temple

Ryoan-ji Temple, a Zen temple, is world-famous for its mid 15th century stone garden, which is a Special Place of Scenic Beauty. The Hondo (main hall) is an Important Cultural Property.

### Hongan-ji Temple

This temple's main building complex was completed in 1633. Six buildings in the complex are National Treasures, another 6 are Important Cultural Properties. The Daisho-in Teien garden is a Special Place of Scenic Beauty.

### Nijo-jo Castle

Built in 1603 by Shogun Tokugawa Ieyasu to protect the Imperial palace, and to serve as his Kyoto residence, this castle is highly representative of the spirit of the Momoyama Period (1568-1600). Six of the buildings in the complex are National Treasures. The Ninomaru Teien garden is a Special Place of Scenic Beauty, and 22 other buildings are Important Cultural Properties.

In addition to the aforementioned Historic Monuments of Ancient Kyoto designated as UNESCO World Heritage Sites, Byodo-in Temple and Ujigami-jinja Shrine in Uji (Kyoto Prefecture), and Enryaku-ji Temple in Otsu City (Shiga Prefecture) were also designated.



## Remembering Kyoto's 1200th Anniversary



In remembrance of Kyoto's 1200th anniversary celebration, held throughout 1994, Kyoto City would like to express its sincere appreciation to the people who participated in the events held during the celebration. Thanks to the cooperation of such people, a number of the main international events — the 4th World Conference of Historical Cities, the Kyoto International Half Marathon, etc. — were undertaken and completed with great success. The celebrations surrounding the 1200th anniversary, held under the theme "Tradition and Creativity," ended with an exciting and heart warming finish. Now, Kyoto has embarked on the challenging period which will culminate in its 1300th anniversary in 100 years time.

### 1200th Anniversary Celebration Event Highlights

**March 20th:**

**Kyoto International Half Marathon**  
12,000 runners from Japan and around the world participated in this exciting event.

**April 25 - 28:**

**The 4th World Conference of Historical Cities**  
45 historical cities from 40 countries participated in this conference which gave birth to the League of Historical Cities.

**June 6:**

**Commemorative Celebration Event**  
A grand celebration by the people of Kyoto, in tribute to Kyoto's 12 glorious centuries of history, celebrating the city's vitality through the ages and centuries to come.

**Sept. 22 - Oct. 23:**

**Heian-kyo Reborn Exhibition**  
A large 3D replica of Heian-kyo created a realistic visual image of how Kyoto must have

looked in the Heian period (794 - 1185) went on display. Classical performances and rituals were also held in celebration of Kyoto culture.

**Sept. 24 - Oct. 2:**

**Kyoto International Film Festival**  
As the birthplace of Japanese cinema, Kyoto welcomed film executives and stars from Japan and abroad to this exciting week-long event.

**Nov. 6th:**

**The Kyoto Festival**  
Various events, including a large parade participated in by 13,000 Kyoto citizens, created a highly festive atmosphere.

**Nov. 8:**

**Commemoration Ceremony and Heiankyo Declaration**  
On this day, Kyoto announced to the world the Heian Declaration, a worldwide appeal for peace and stability.

## The 5th World Conference of Historical Cities

Last year on October 18th, 2 representatives from the office of the World Historical City League in Kyoto visited Xian, China and discussed further details concerning the 5th Conference with Mr. Cai Wei, Vice Mayor of Xian Municipal Government. In Xian a Conference Organization Committee has already been set up and preparations for the 5th World Historical City Conference are well under way. Future issues of The League of World Historical Cities News Bulletin will continue to feature up-to-date information on the 5th Conference. The 6th Conference will be held in Crakow, the Republic of Poland, some time in 1998.

### 5th Conference Schedule

Sept. 9, 1996 (Mon): Reception and party  
Sept. 10 (Tue): Opening ceremony, performances  
Sept. 11 (Wed): Session  
Sept. 12 (Thu): Excursion trip to the Terra-Cotta Warriors and Houses Museum, etc., and the opening ceremony for Xian Ancient Culture and Art Festival  
Sept. 13 (Fri): League's General Assembly, closing ceremony, farewell party

### Participating Cities

All league member cities as well as other cities which will be selected by the City of Xian.

### Conference Languages

Chinese and English



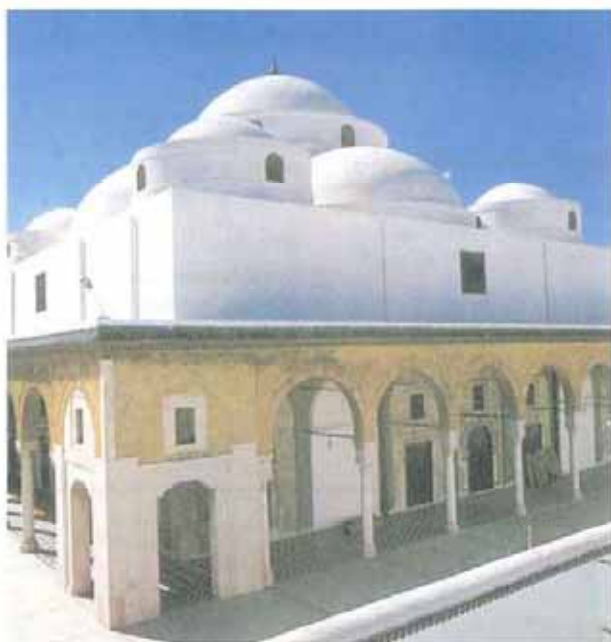
As a result of the Great Hanshin Earthquake on the 17th of January, in which more than 5000 people died and the immediate Kansai area suffered severe damage, several of Kyoto's cultural assets sustained damage. However, in all cases the damage to Kyoto was slight. A number of sympathy letters came to League office from member cities and other locations. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to those who took the time to write to us and express concern for our city. Thank you very much.

From Ancient Neighborhoods to Today

A look at preserving historic

# Tunis

*Conservation policies for the historic areas of central Tunis have evolved considerably since the first preservation areas of the late 1920s. Since 1967, rehabilitation and renovation of the Médina of Tunis, one of the finest Mediterranean cities, has been the principal concern of a special body, the Association Sauvegarde de la Médina.*



The days when architects and politicians considered the médinas, the old cities of Tunisia, as being fit only for demolition are long gone. Today in Tunisia it is clear that the médinas contain the secrets of a vanishing art of living, that the courtyard houses and the simple beauty of a mesjed, a "parish" mosque, are fragile — even though here today, they could all too easily be gone tomorrow.

The movement for conserving old Tunis began in earnest in the late 1960s, when modernist development projects were on the drawing board. Particularly threatening was a major project to continue the principal artery of the 19th century lower city through the Médina to the Kasbah. This was fortunately prevented when intellectuals, historians, architects and local politicians banded together in what was to become the Association Sauvegarde de la Médina de Tunis. Subsequently, architecture and planning offices were created in a restored palace. This new, enthusiastic, multi-disciplinary team received considerable help from UNESCO, which was heavily involved with the conservation of nearby Carthage in the early 1970s.

The Médina of Tunis is particularly interesting for the variety of its urban fabric. Surrounding the central Zitouna Mosque, founded late in the 7th century, lies a dense network of

covered souks, which are still very active today. The residential areas are composed of courtyard houses, with the life of each family organized around a central space open to the sky. In particular, the square minarets of the Malekite mosques and the elegant pointed minarets of the Hanefite mosques give the Médina a characteristic silhouette. However, the area's ramparts have largely disappeared, replaced by apartment buildings in the neo-classical and eclectic styles, and in the Kasbah area by an exquisite set of turn of the century buildings. The Bab Souika area, renewed in the 1980s, contains a number of interesting contributions by contemporary architects.

Unlike many other similar organizations in the Arab world which, despite numerous seminars and reports, have been unable to move into action, the Association Sauvegarde de la Médina de Tunis has saved and restored a number of palaces and residences, mosques and médersas (traditional colleges), as well as contributing actively to two major urban renewal projects in the central quarters of Bab Souika/Halfaouine and the Hafsia.

The riches of Tunisian architecture call for special attention, made problematic by a rising water table and associated damp, speculation in recuperated building materials, and the difficulties of "operating" on buildings in areas difficult to access with machines and vehicles.

Urban conservation activity has not been limited to the Médina alone. The listing of the Art Nouveau municipal theatre, in 1992, marked the beginning of a new awareness of the value of the architecture of the ville basse, essentially composed of early 20th century apartment buildings. In 1994, the Association began a major study which will lead to proposals for the revalorization of this street. Eventually, this may be extended to other aesthetically important areas in the



city center. At the very least, the neo-classical and Art Deco facades will remain and, with cleaning and the removal of the ugliest signs and billboards, the finest areas will recover their original aesthetic unity.

The key to furthering conservation in historic Tunis will of course be the creation of a conservation area based on detailed land use plans. Drawn up under the terms of the 1992 National Heritage Code, this will protect not only the buildings of great historic importance, but also the



accompanying architecture significant for the character of both streets and city. For although there will inevitably be much demolition/reconstruction, the Médina of Tunis must keep its "ordinary architecture." This will entail restoring facades without stereotyping, preserving the remaining traditional trades, and enhancing the local living conditions, notably those of the least privileged groups.

For more information on the Association Sauvegarde de la Médina write to: Mr. M'hamed Ali Bouleymen, Mayor of Tunis, Association de la sauvegarde de la médina, 24, Rue du Tribunal Tunis, Tunisia.

With the theme preservation and development, this section of World Historical Cities is devoted to featuring articles and photos provided by member cities of the League. In the coming issues, features on Lisbon, Alexandria, Melbourne, Tashkent, Zurich, Isfahan and Budapest are planned. If you would like to have your city featured, please submit relevant information and photos to the League of Historical Cities Secretariat.

## The League of Historical Cities List

Accra (Republic of Ghana)  
 Alexandria (Arab Republic of Egypt)  
 Amsterdam (Kingdom of the Netherlands)  
 Athens (Hellenic Republic)  
 Barcelona (Spain)  
 Bordeaux (French Republic)  
 Boston (United States of America)  
 Bratislava (Slovak Republic)  
 Brussels (Kingdom of Belgium)  
 Budapest (Republic of Hungary)  
 Chiang Mai (Kingdom of Thailand)  
 Cologne (Federal Republic of Germany)  
 Cracow (Republic of Poland)  
 Cusco (Republic of Peru)  
 Dublin (Ireland)  
 Edinburgh (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)  
 Fez (Kingdom of Morocco)  
 Florence (Republic of Italy)  
 Guadalajara (United Mexican States )  
 Hanoi (Socialist Republic of Viet Nam)  
 Isfahan (Islamic Republic of Iran)  
 Istanbul (Republic of Turkey)  
 Jerusalem (State of Israel)  
 Kaesong (Democratic People's Republic of Korea)  
 Katmandu (Kingdom of Nepal)  
 Kiev (Ukraine)  
 Kyongju (Republic of Korea)  
 Kyoto (Japan)  
 Lahore (Islamic Republic of Pakistan)  
 Lisbon (Portuguese Republic)  
 Melbourne (Australia)  
 Mexico City (United Mexican States)  
 Montreal (Canada)  
 Nanjing (People's Republic of China)  
 Paris (French Republic)  
 Prague (Czech Republic)  
 Quebec (Canada)  
 Rio de Janeiro (Federative Republic of Brazil)  
 Rome (Republic of Italy)  
 Tashkent (Republic of Uzbekistan)  
 Tunis (Republic of Tunisia)  
 Ulan Bator (Mongolia)  
 Varanasi (India)  
 Vienna (Republic of Austria)  
 Xian (People's Republic of China)  
 Yogyakarta (Republic of Indonesia)  
 Zagreb (Republic of Croatia)  
 Zurich (Swiss Confederation)

PREVIOUS  
CONFERENCE

*The 2nd Conference*  
in Florence, Republic of Italy  
June 18th to 21st, 1988

theme : Historical Cities for the Future of Mankind  
number of participating cities : 33 ( 27 countries )

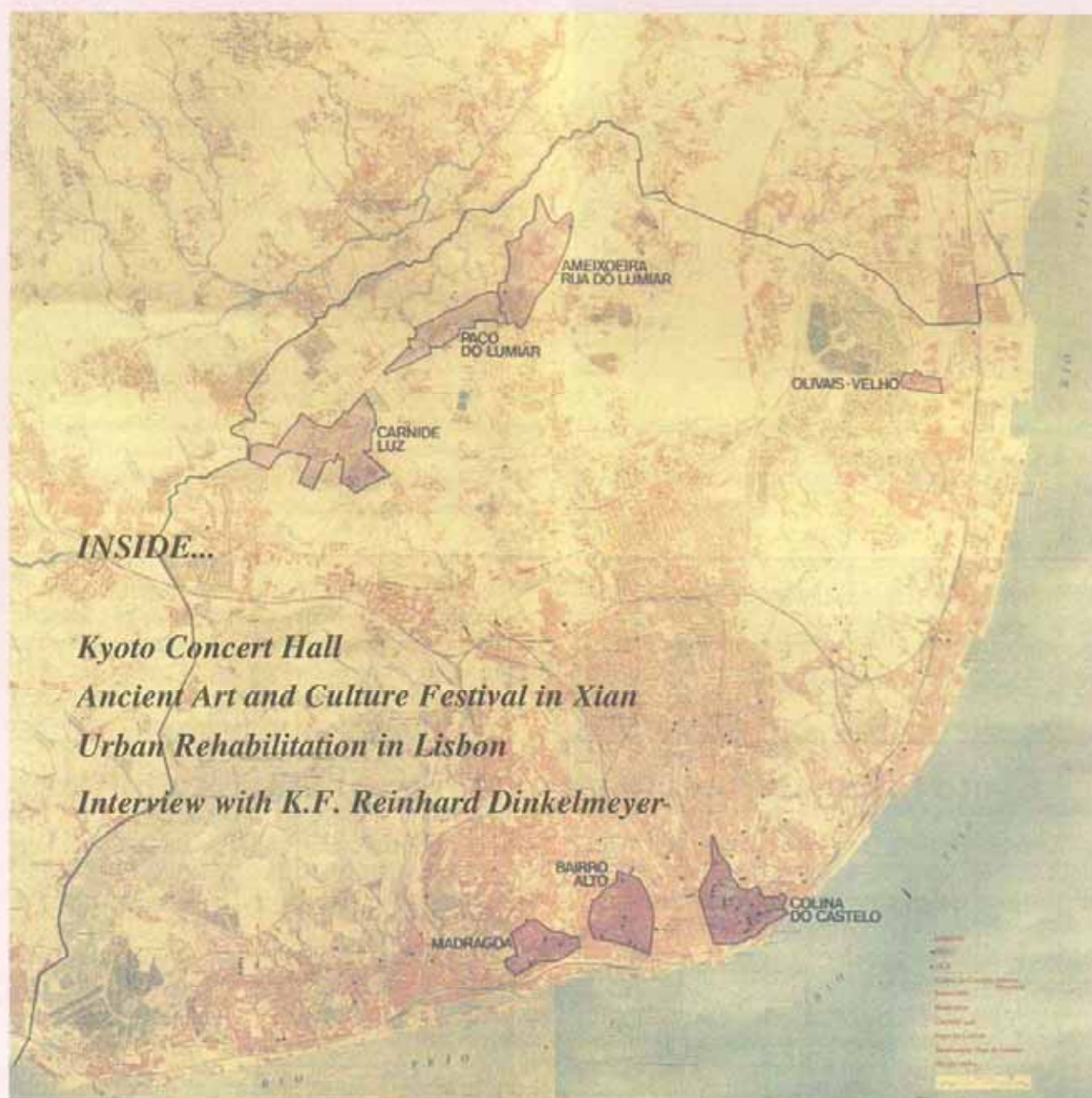


WORLD

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

# HISTORICAL CITIES

NO. 4: JULY 1995



Area map of Lisbon with intervention areas highlighted.

# Introducing The Kyoto Concert Hall



As Kyoto enters its 13th century, its latest cultural monument, the newly completed Kyoto Concert Hall, will finally make its grand opening on October 15th.

Located only 50 meters away from the Kitayama Subway Station in northern Kyoto City, this concert hall is easily accessible from most places around the city.

With a ferroconcrete and partial steel-frame structure, the concert hall has a total floor area of nearly 22,000 m<sup>2</sup>. This facility consists of two halls with superb acoustic systems: the Main Hall, which can accommodate major orchestras and choirs, and the Lesser Hall, which is designed for chamber music and solo performances.

## *Schedule of Opening Events by Member Cities*

### **October**

- 15-17 Orchester de Paris
- 22 Orchestra Verdiana (Florence)
- 28 Wiener Tonkünstler Orchestra
- 30 The Boston Camerata

### **November**

- 3 Wiener Philharmoniker
- 9 I Solisti di Zagreb
- 14 National Symphony Orchestra of Shaanxi  
Song and Dance Ensemble

### **December**

- 12 New Budapest String Quartet

The 1,839-seat Main Hall is built in a shoebox style similar to Amsterdam's Concertgebouw and Boston's Symphony Hall. The Main Hall stage can hold a 120-member orchestra and a 100-member choir at the same time. Behind the stage stands a magnificent pipe organ with 90 stops, built by the famous Johannes Klais Orgelbau company in Germany. The Lesser Hall seats 514 persons and is built in a hexagonal shape. The Lesser Hall stage can hold a small 30-member orchestra.

A number of opening events will be performed by renowned musicians from Japan and overseas, some of which include performers from League member cities (see concert schedule on left).

## **Kyoto Citizens Contribute to Montreal Silk Exhibition**

An exhibition titled "The Wonder of Silk" will be held until October 9th at the Municipal Botanical Garden of Montreal, Canada. This exhibition examines facets of silk at different sites along the Silk Road from China to Japan, from France to North America, and from its origin to the present.

One section of the exhibition is dedicated to the Japanese national costume, the kimono, and its role in Japanese society. Titled "The Kimono and Rites of Passage," this section illustrates how different kimonos that are worn for each monumental stage in a person's life change in shape, appearance, color and texture for each event.

Due to a friendly relationship that was formed between Montreal and Kyoto during the 4th World Con-

ference of Historical Cities, the people of Kyoto were able to contribute to "The Kimono and Rites of Passage" by donating their kimonos and other silk belongings for display.

This project is one example of exchanges that came about as a result of the League of Historical Cities. We certainly hope that these kinds of grassroots-level exchanges will continue to develop in the future.

*If your city is involved in an ongoing project with a member city or cities, we would like to feature it in a future issue of this newsletter. Please send all articles and photographs to the League of Historical Cities Secretariat. Submissions may be edited for purposes of clarity or length.*

## Showcasing Xian's Historical Allure

### *A Preview of the 1995 Ancient Culture and Art Festival*

The 5th World Conference of Historical Cities will take place in Xian, People's Republic of China in September 1996. As one of the cradles of Chinese traditional culture, Xian is a world famous city in the development of cultural works. During the conference, participants will visit the Museum of Emperor Qin Shihuang's Terra-cotta Warriors and Horses and attend the 1996 Ancient Culture and Art Festival.

Since 1990, the annual Ancient Culture and Art Festival has been held in Xian to spread the local culture, raise ethnic pride and promote international cultural and artistic relations. This year's Ancient Culture and Art Festival will take place from September 12th to 17th.

Highlights of the festival include large-scale musical, dance and theatrical performances along with exhibitions of cultural properties and artwork. Festival attendees will also have the opportunity to discuss large-scale international trade and investment issues.



#### • *Schedule for 1995 Festival* •

##### **1. Opening Ceremony**

Large scale classical music and dance performance named "The Dignity of Chang 'an."

##### **2. "Qin Wind and Tang Sound" Art Exhibition**

This changing art exhibition will feature civil works submitted by many cities throughout China.

##### **3. Performing Arts**

Superior dramas selected by Shaanxi County and the City of Xian for their clear representations of China's regional characteristics will be performed during the festival. A number of classic domestic and international plays will also be performed.

##### **4. Sightseeing Excursion to Old Ramparts**

The old ramparts of Xian were constructed in the beginning of the Ming Dynasty. Participants will be able to view the ramparts' restored decorations, the splendid ceremony of entering the castle, an exhibition of traditional customs and a fireworks display.

##### **5. Exhibition of Historical Cultural Properties**

Shaanxi History Museum, Banpo Museum and the Forest of Steles Museum will exhibit valuable cultural assets and the actual living environments and customs of local people.

##### **6. Closing Ceremony**

A few excellent old and new plays will be performed.

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## Dutch Students Visit Kyoto to Study Historical Preservation

On May 12, 1995, four graduate students from the Delft University of Technology in Holland visited Kyoto City Hall to study city planning, preservation of historical monuments and architectural works.

The visit was arranged through Robert Apell, Director of the Municipal Department for the Preservation of Monuments and Sites of Amsterdam. Mr. Apell, an alumnus of Delft University of Technology, attended the 4th World Conference of Historical Cities in Kyoto last year.

When the graduate students consulted Mr. Apell for

names of potential historical cities to study, Mr. Apell recalled his experience in Japan during last year's conference and recommended Kyoto.

The students met with staff members of Kyoto City's Landscape Section and Cultural Properties Preservation Section and discussed the unique qualities of Japanese wooden architecture and exchanged ideas and methods for revitalizing the old city and establishing regulations to protect historical townscapes. After the meeting, the delegation toured several preservation districts around the city.

## Urban Rehabilitation in Lisbon



Revitalized building in Barrio Alto

In 1986, moved by public awareness of the right to proper housing within a *bairro* (traditional area of a city), two pilot schemes were set up in Alfama and Mouraria. A third pilot scheme in Bairro Alto followed in 1988.

Under this scheme, bureaus were set up in the two *bairros* to draw up a plan of action. The presence of experts in the *bairros* meant that the bureaus actually served as a place where the people could turn to with serious problems concerning their homes and the *bairro*. These bureaus then started to put pressure on the departments of the Lisbon City Council which usually deal with the city's various problems.

Since there was no immediate response from the departments responsible for these matters, the bureaus' powers increased progressively and became more autonomous. Because of these experiments' positive results and pressure from the residents of other *bairros*, Lisbon City Council decided to extend this type of action and formed the Municipal Department for Urban Rehabilitation (DMRU) in 1990. This department is responsible for coordinating and supporting all the bureaus and for including other areas of the city.

### Geographically Based Organization

As coordinator of the local bureaus in the city, the

*The following is part of an ongoing series of feature articles on preservation and developed problems faced by world historical cities and how these cities are dealing with these problems.*

DMRU has a geographical structure. Because it covers a wide area, the department was given powers for its areas of action, which, for the rest of the city, are the responsibility of four City Council departments: the Municipal Department for Planning and Urban Management, the Municipal Department for Construction and Preservation of Buildings, the Department for Management of Council Owned Housing and the Department for Cultural Heritage.

### Involved Management

The bureaus are usually located in one of the buildings which has been or is being renovated. This means that the experts are always working on the scene. Their presence gives a strong element of stability and lets the residents know they can count on the experts to be personally involved in solving problems.

Rehabilitation also relies on a new interinstitutional relationship, where the actions of the various Central Administration departments can integrate locally when public facilities and services are installed or improved.

In brief, Urban Rehabilitation means a city management which adapts the old structure to the modern population's needs, making the city an instrument of social welfare for all those who live in it now and assuring its future.

Street in Mouraria

### Tools

While the tools which rehabilitation has at its disposal are a remarkable sign of progress, they are not enough to solve many of its problems.

The first major problem is the extremely low number of houses available for rehousing. Because many buildings under the scheme are in an advanced state of deterioration, many occupants must be temporarily rehoused. Lisbon





## WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES

### Sightseeing of Alfama and Sé



has 200 homes outside the *bairros* for this purpose, but this is clearly not enough and some occupants have to be accommodated in boarding houses. Lisbon is trying to create a subsidy so that those residents who are affected can find their own housing.

To improve general living conditions, Lisbon is installing sanitary facilities and improving ventilation and electrical wiring systems. When reconstructing a building, the morphology, alignments and dimensions of the original structure are maintained as much as possible.

For private works, the owner of the building should be able to claim a subsidy of 26% from the Lisbon City Council and 39% from the central administration, which leaves the owner to shoulder 35% of the total cost. If the owner refuses, the Ground Law permits Lisbon City Council to replace the owner in all his duties, take administrative possession of the building and by declaring it a vital area for urban restoration and renewal, carry out the works.

### Human and Financial Resources

Each bureau has between 10 and 30 collaborators and employees. Combined with the central services of the DMRU this creates a total of 250 people. There are teams of experts comprised of lawyers, sociologists, geographers, historians, psychologists, social workers, architects, engineers, builders, estimators, designers and administrative staff.

Financial support provided by the Lisbon City Council has grown considerably over the past several years, from 218 million escudos in 1988 to 1.683 billion escudos in 1993.

*For more information on urban rehabilitation in Lisbon, please write to: Mr. Filipe Mário Lopes, Municipal Director, Municipal Department for Urban Rehabilitation. Address: Rua Alexandre Herculano, 25-1200 Lisboa Portugal. Tel: +351-1-353 5534 Fax: +351-1-353 5533*

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Budapest (Republic of Hungary)  
Chiang Mai (Kingdom of Thailand)  
Cologne (Federal Republic of Germany)  
Cracow (Republic of Poland)  
Cusco (Republic of Peru)  
Dublin (Ireland)  
Edinburgh (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

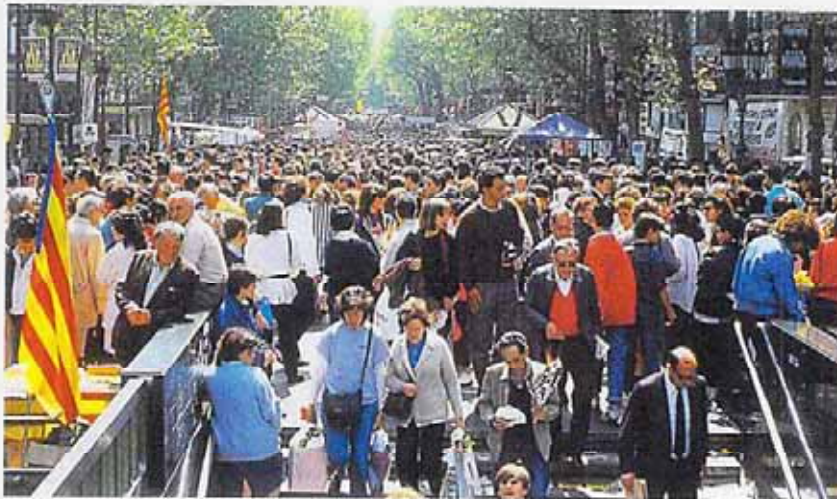
Fez (Kingdom of Morocco)  
Florence (Republic of Italy)  
Guadalajara (United Mexican States)  
Hanoi (Socialist Republic of Viet Nam)  
Isfahan (Islamic Republic of Iran)  
Istanbul (Republic of Turkey)  
Jerusalem (State of Israel)  
Kaesong (Democratic People's Republic of Korea)  
Katmandu (Kingdom of Nepal)  
Kiev (Ukraine)  
Kyongju (Republic of Korea)  
Kyoto (Japan)  
Lahore (Islamic Republic of Pakistan)  
Lisbon (Portuguese Republic)  
Melbourne (Australia)  
Mexico City (United Mexican States)

Montreal (Canada)  
Nanjing (People's Republic of China)  
Paris (French Republic)  
Prague (Czech Republic)  
Quebec (Canada)  
Rio de Janeiro (Federative Republic of Brazil)  
Rome (Republic of Italy)  
Tashkent (Republic of Uzbekistan)  
Tunis (Republic of Tunisia)  
Ulan Bator (Mongolia)  
Varanasi (India)  
Vienna (Republic of Austria)  
Xian (People's Republic of China)  
Yogyakarta (Republic of Indonesia)  
Zagreb (Republic of Croatia)  
Zurich (Swiss Confederation)

PREVIOUS  
CONFERENCE

## *The 3rd Conference* in Barcelona, October 28th to 31st, 1991

theme : The Memories of and Futures of Cities  
number of participating cities : 40 ( 23 countries )



WORLD

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

# HISTORICAL CITIES

NO.5: OCT. 1995

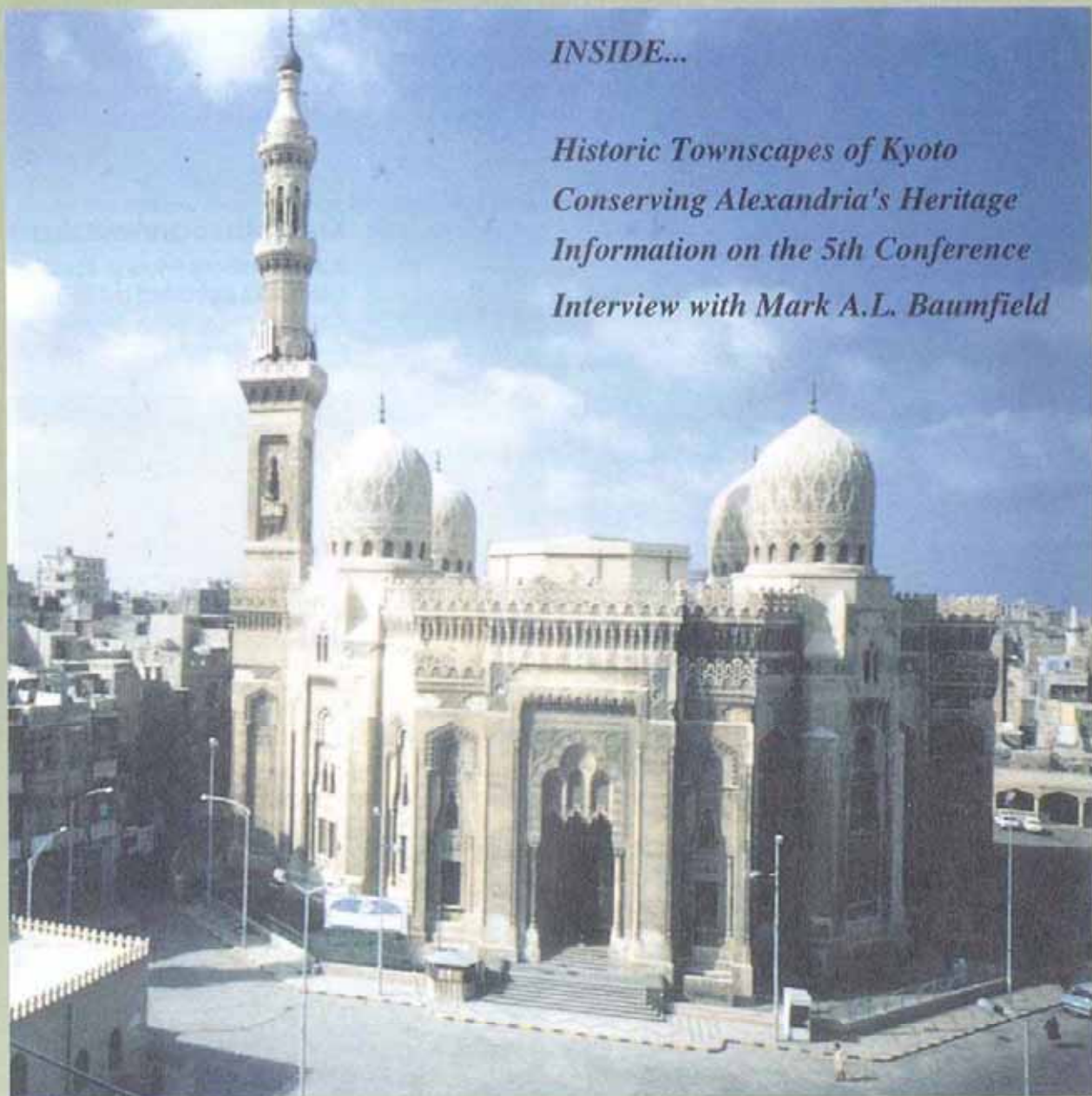
*INSIDE...*

*Historic Townscapes of Kyoto*

*Conserving Alexandria's Heritage*

*Information on the 5th Conference*

*Interview with Mark A.L. Baumfield*

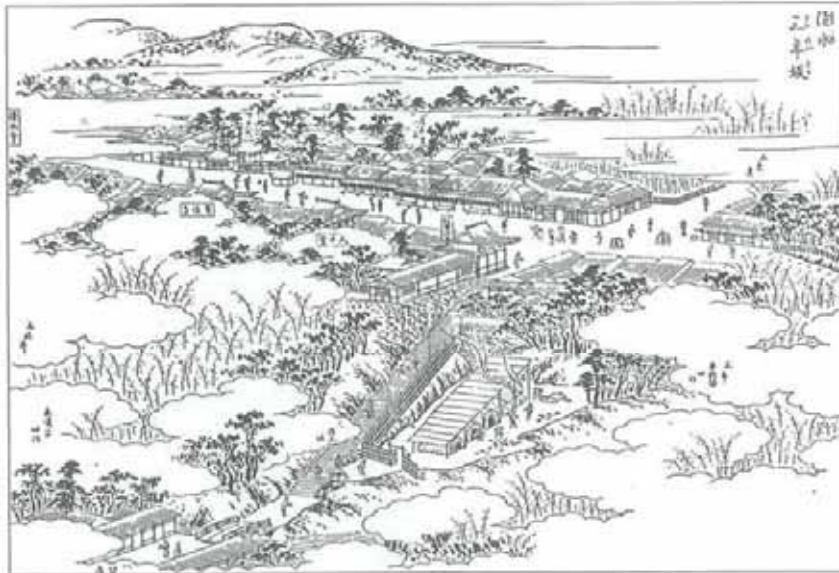


## Historic Townscapes of Kyoto: A Look at Sanneizaka Area

Here and there in Kyoto, we can see rows of traditional two-story buildings with tiled gabled roofs and fine, wooden latticework in front. Most of them are *Kyo-machiya*, or traditional townhouse-type buildings which originated around the 18th century, in the middle of the Edo Period.

Nowadays, however, they are gradually disappearing due to rapid modernization, urbanization and changing lifestyles.

To provide legal, financial and technical support to the citizens who were making great efforts to protect their historical areas, the city council decided to establish the "Kyoto Municipal Ordinance on Cityscape" in 1972. They then established the "Kyoto Municipal Ordinance for Preservation District for Groups of Historic Buildings" to preserve the traditional rows of shops and houses which comprise the famous Kyoto townscapes. Although four areas are currently designated as "Preservation Districts for Groups of Historic Buildings," this year another area will be given that designation.



### Kiyomizu Sanneizaka

from *Woodblock Prints of Kyoto's Landmarks* (published in 1787)

Kilns of Kiyomizu-yaki pottery can be seen along the stone-paved slope.



Modern-day Sanneizaka

In this article we will introduce one of these four preservation districts, Sanneizaka Area.

Sanneizaka area is the first special preservation area for traditional buildings. Named after one of the old cobbled streets leading up the hill to Kiyomizudera Temple, Sanneizaka is a town that grew up outside the gates of a temple, or *monzenmachi*. In this area, there are many old temples and winding streets such as Yasaka Pagoda, Kodaiji Temple, Sanneizaka Slope, Ninenzaka Slope and other narrow streets paved with stone which serve as a link for these temples. These ancient streets are lined with wooden houses with two-story mezzanines, Japanese tea shops and souvenir shops which sell bamboo crafts, Kiyomizu pottery, clay dolls, etc. They add a calm and quiet atmosphere to these surroundings.

The houses along Sanneizaka have characteristic facades which are representative of the era in which they were built. The *mushiko-mado* townhouse which has small, narrow windows in the clay wall on the front of the mezzanine, is the oldest example of the traditional townhouse of Kyoto, or *Kyo-Machiya*. Most of the *Kyo-machiya* which we can now see were built during the first half of the 19th century, around the end of the Edo era. The high, two-story townhouses with *zashiki*, which is used for entertaining guests, on the second floor appeared in the latter half of the 19th century.

In addition to these types of townhouses, there are some other types of buildings in this area, such as the transformed townhouse whose design motif partly came from *sukiya* or a quaint artistic cottage; the Japanese mansions with the branch temple style of architecture typi-

fied by a high gate and clay wall, etc. Walking along the street we can see a historical panorama of various types of buildings carefully preserved throughout their long history.

To conserve this historical area, Kyoto City Government began to talk with local residents in 1971 and underwent thorough investigations to create a conservation plan. In 1972, after some earnest discussion, the local residents and city government reached an agreement to designate this area (5.3 hectares, 240 houses) as the "Special Preservation Area for Traditional Buildings." Then in 1976, this area was designated again as the "Preservation Area for Groups of Historic Buildings," based on the new Cultural Properties Protection Act of 1976.

Under this system, changes on the buildings' exteriors, alterations of land character and cutting down trees and

bamboos are controlled strictly to conserve the external appearance and atmosphere of the neighborhood. However, owners are free to make any changes in the buildings' interiors. If an owner wants to repair, renovate or rebuild his or her house, the city government can help by providing design manuals of traditional buildings in the area and some technical advice.

After discussions between the owners, the architect, the carpenter and city government officials, all parties concerned can reach the best solution to harmonize the house with its historical surroundings. When these negotiations result in a feasible plan, the city government will offer a subsidy of four-fifths of the expense if the home needs to be repaired and two-thirds of the expense if the home needs to be renovated or rebuilt. In the past 21 years, more than 260 conservation works were carried out in Sannenzaka Area, and as a result, the appearance of this area has become more attractive.



### Mushiko-mado Townhouse

The latticed windows on this townhouse are called *mushiko* (which means insect cages in Japanese) because they look like an insect cage. This townhouse can be seen in the paintings of folding screens of 15th-16th centuries.



### Two-story Townhouse

This style began to be adopted in town houses mainly around the 19th century. It is featured by a high second story.



### Transformed Townhouse

This style is seen in townhouses built in the early 20th century which is an ordinary townhouse with atmosphere of tea ceremony houses and representing refined beauty of Kyoto.



### Sukiya

This is a special architectural style designed after tea ceremony houses.

*The following is part of an ongoing series of feature articles on preservation and developing problems faced by world historical cities and how these problems are being resolved.*

## Conserving Alexandria's Heritage



Fort Kait Bay

The City of Alexandria was founded by Alexander the Great in 332 B.C. The Ptolemies have established the City of Alexandria to be a unique commercial and cultural cosmopolitan. The famous Alexandria Library was established as a unique in the Ancient World as a Seat of Knowledge and Learning. Equally renowned was the Pharos Lighthouse, one of the Seven Wonders of the ancient world.

The Christian and Islamic eras have equally left their monuments and edifices in the city. Until today the Church of Alexandria with its Pope is recognized to be the oldest in the Christian world. Since Napoleon's French expedition to Egypt in 1798, Alexandria has expanded to include industrious cosmopolitan communities and has also become a major industrial, commercial, tourism and cultural center of Egypt.

### **Egyptian Archaeological Organization**

The historical buildings and sites in Alexandria are protected and managed by the Egyptian Archaeological Organization (EAO). Under the recently enacted Antiquities Law, EAO has the powers and resources to protect archaeological buildings, monuments and findings as well as to undertake all activities for maintenance, conservation, management and preservation. No building permit is issued in the city of Alexandria without the approval and sanctioning of the EAO. All excavations in the city, whether for the construction of buildings, roads, or new facilities are not allowed without an archaeological inspection and monitoring of these activities. Inspectors are always present on the site of any underground works, particularly those within the old city boundaries.

### **Conserving Prominent Buildings**

Many buildings built during the last 150 years possess certain unique architectural qualities which serve as examples of artistic excellence. The Antiquities Law covers buildings built before the last 100 years. Due to the feverish building activities since the 1970s, the trend has been to demolish those distinguished buildings or Villas in favor of greater investments and returns.

A newly passed building ordinance requires that no demolition permit can be issued without prior confirmation that the building concerned is being protected for its architectonic or artistic qualities.

Most city quarters have been surveyed to prepare a new registry for conservation and classification of those unique buildings. A plan of action has been drawn for the conservation and maintenance of classified buildings, sites, quarters or streets. The aesthetic urban qualities of certain old streets are to be observed in the design and execution of new buildings in those quarters or streets. Unfortunately, most of these quarters or streets have been subject to lack of maintenance and their architectural heritage suffers from neglect and deterioration.



Archaeological styles prevalent in buildings registered for conservation include the following:

- ¥ Islamic Style with Memluke influence and/or Mediterranean features.
- ¥ Pseudo Venetian with Art-Deco semblances.
- ¥ Early modern with traces of Art-Deco and Pseudo-Neoclassic details and ornament.
- ¥ Early Modern-Mediterranean with Stucco walls, tiled pitched roofs and "balanced" masses of facing bricks
- ¥ Neo-Classic Style
- ¥ Pseudo Baroque Style
- ¥ Cubistic early Modernism with Italian semblances

### Alexandria Comprehensive Plan

The 2005 Alexandria Comprehensive Plan addresses the conservation of the Alexandria heritage. Under this plan, buildings whose prominent architectonic and artistic value and distinguished styles are difficult to reproduce with modern-day construction techniques have been registered and listed for preservation.

By law no demolition permit in the city can be issued without proper inspection and survey by specialists; this precaution saves the registered buildings from demolition by entrepreneurs and speculative ventures. Any owner who violates the rules or destroys his building, or part thereof, which was listed for conservation is forced to rebuild it according to its original form; the contractor involved in the demolition is removed from the Contractors Union registry. Furthermore, certain incentives have been revised to encourage owners to preserve their listed buildings.

In general, although a few violations occur sporadically in various quarters, we think that our conservation drive has been fruitful and meaningful.

In addition, city pedestrian walkways which pass by prominent classified buildings and significant archaeological sites have been planned for visitors to the old and new quarters. This is an important project to ac-



Montazah Palace

quaint the city visitors with Alexandria's heritage and will be a significant overture to open the city's cultural wealth to the people.

*For more information on this article, please contact: Ms. Laila Yehia, Director General of Public Relations Department, Governorate of Alexandria. Address: The Building of Alexandria Governorate Alexandria, Arab Republic of Egypt Phone: +203 482 1345, Fax: +203 482 7192*

With the theme of preservation and development, this section of World Historical Cities is devoted to featuring articles and photos provided by League member cities. In future issues, features on Melbourne, Tashkent, Zurich, Budapest and Vienna will be published. To showcase your city in this section, please submit relevant information and photos to the League Secretariat.

## The League of Historical Cities List

Accra (Republic of Ghana)	Fez (Kingdom of Morocco)	Montreal (Canada)
Alexandria (Arab Republic of Egypt)	Florence (Republic of Italy)	Nanjing (People's Republic of China)
Amsterdam (Kingdom of the Netherlands)	Guadalajara (United Mexican States)	Paris (French Republic)
Athens (Hellenic Republic)	Hanoi (Socialist Republic of Viet Nam)	Prague (Czech Republic)
Barcelona (Spain)	Istahan (Islamic Republic of Iran)	Quebec (Canada)
Bordeaux (French Republic)	Istanbul (Republic of Turkey)	Rio de Janeiro (Federative Republic of Brazil)
Boston (United States of America)	Jerusalem (State of Israel)	Rome (Republic of Italy)
Bratislava (Slovak Republic)	Kaesong (Democratic People's Republic of Korea)	Tashkent (Republic of Uzbekistan)
Brussels (Kingdom of Belgium)	Katmandu (Kingdom of Nepal)	Tunis (Republic of Tunisia)
Budapest (Republic of Hungary)	Kiev (Ukraine)	Ulan Bator (Mongolia)
Chiang Mai (Kingdom of Thailand)	Kyongju (Republic of Korea)	Varanasi (India)
Cologne (Federal Republic of Germany)	Kyoto (Japan)	Vienna (Republic of Austria)
Cracow (Republic of Poland)	Lahore (Islamic Republic of Pakistan)	Xian (People's Republic of China)
Cusco (Republic of Peru)	Lisbon (Portuguese Republic)	Yogyakarta (Republic of Indonesia)
Dublin (Ireland)	Melbourne (Australia)	Zagreb (Republic of Croatia)
Edinburgh (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)	Mexico City (United Mexican States)	Zurich (Swiss Confederation)

## Information on the 5th Conference

*The delegation from the League of Historical Cities Secretariat in Kyoto visited Xian, China on September 25th and 26th and discussed further details concerning the 5th World Conference of Historical Cities with Vice Mayor Cai Weihui, Vice Director of Foreign Affairs Li Xuemei and other officials from the City of Xian. Xian decided to invite about 100 cities including 48 League member cities.*



### Outline of the 5th Conference

Period: Sept. 9 (Mon) - Sept. 13 (Fri.) 1996  
 Venue: Xian Garden Hotel (next to the Big Wild Goose Pagoda)  
 Theme: Promotion of Historical Cities  
 Languages: The official languages are Chinese and English. Simultaneous interpretation between Chinese and English will be provided.  
 Host City: Xian  
 Registration Fee: \$100 U.S. dollars per participant

### Tentative Schedule

Sept. 9 (Mon)  
 Registration  
 Welcome Reception  
 Sept. 10 (Tue)  
 Opening Ceremony  
 Plenary Session  
 Observation of Tang Dynasty Musical  
 Sept. 11 (Wed)  
 Sessions  
 General Assembly of the League  
 Sept. 12 (Thu)  
 Observation of Opening Ceremony of '96 China Xian Investment and Trade Forum  
 Visit to the Museum of Emperor Qin Shihuang's Terra-cotta Warriors and Horses, Hua Qing Hot Springs and Shaanxi History Museum  
 Observation of Opening Ceremony Ancient Culture and Art Festival  
 Sept. 13 (Fri)  
 Closing Ceremony

The City of Xian will send a circular to all invited cities shortly. The League Secretariat, City of Kyoto, will also send an invitation letter concerning the League's General Assembly to all the member cities.

## A Day in Xian - Part I

A Report by a Kyoto Delegate to Xian

Xian is an ancient capital in the People's Republic of China and has a history of over 3,000 years. It is also the eastern starting point of the Silk Road, which was very important for commerce between the East and the West. When I climbed up the wall surrounding this city, I could see the Silk Road stretching to the west. I thought that various people have been coming and going on this road for thousands of years.

I would like to describe one day in Xian. Morning begins very early. Around 5 a.m., many people are already starting their daily activities and there are a lot of cars and bicycles on the streets.

These days the number of cars are increasing, but bicycles,

which have been the major means of transportation for a long time, can be seen anywhere. We foreigners open our eyes wide seeing this sight, but it is the daily scene for the Chinese. Pedestrians are crossing roads, quickly threading their way through the endless procession of cars and bicycles. Cars do not slow down at all even if there is a pedestrian in front of them. Bicycles are on equal terms with cars.



In addition, Chinese people usually take a two-hour lunch breaks and many of them go home and take lunch. Because of this, there is rush hour four times each day. I thought this is another reason why the city is already crowded with people.

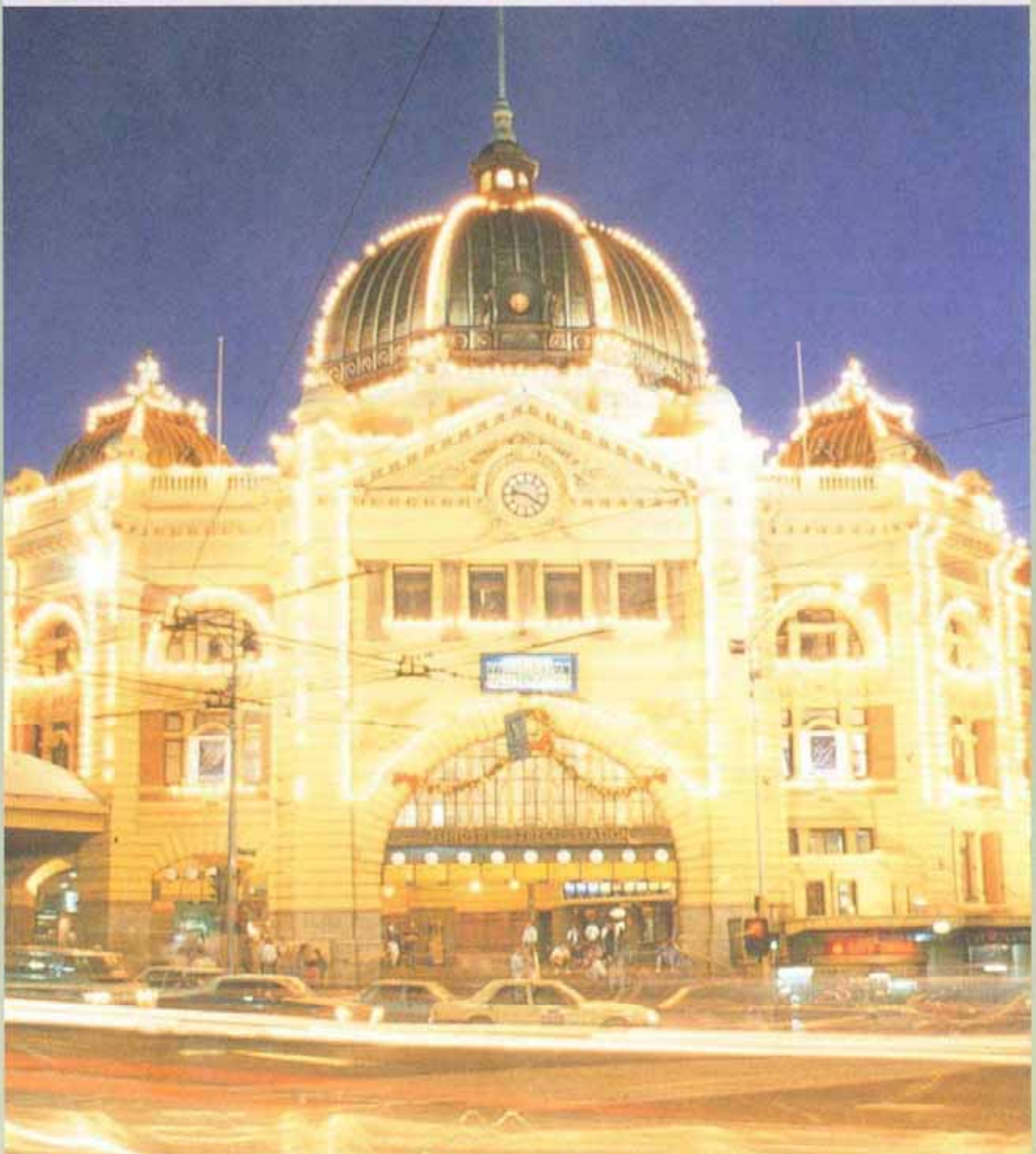


WORLD

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

# HISTORICAL CITIES

NO. 6: JAN. 1996



**Flinders Street Station (Melbourne)**

Built in the Renaissance style, this station is located beside the Princes Bridge of the north bank of the Yarra River. Its Renaissance-style dome was completed in 1910 and modeled after St. Paul's Cathedral of London. The concourse beneath the station clock has been a well-known meeting place for Melbourne commuters.



## Historic Townscapes of Kyoto

### A Look at the Gion Shinbashi Area

Behind the flashing neon signs of modern Gion lies a cobbled street along which flows the Shirakawa Canal. With its rows of traditional houses rich in historical value, Shinbashi Street carries on the district's old-time spirit. From medieval times, the culture of the common people developed along the Kamo River and in the area east of the river to make Gion the famous entertainment district that it is today.

The district of Gion developed as a *monzen-machi* of Yasaka Jinja Shrine. A *monzen-machi* is a town that developed outside of a shrine or a temple. As the number of worshippers to Yasaka-jinja Shrine and Kiyomizudera Temple increased, the number of *o-chaya* (old-fashioned teahouses) increased and the district of Gion prospered.

After the bank of the Kamo River was built in the early Edo period (1603-1867), several communities settled on the eastern side of the bank. Since then this district has quartered the famous teahouses of Kyoto which flourished during the end of the Edo period and throughout the Meiji period (1868-1912). Although some modern, taller buildings have recently taken the place of more traditional ones, the district's original style of architecture is still well preserved due to the efforts of local citizens. Some characteristics of this architectural style are that the lines of the new buildings run smoothly into the lines of traditional Kyoto townhouses, a style which goes back about a century ago. These lines harmonize beautifully with the gentle flow of the Shirakawa Canal and the lively atmosphere which prevails in this time-honored area of entertainment.

In 1973 a plan to build a four-story modern building on Shinbashi Street was disclosed. A group of citizens who feared that this new building would be an ugly contrast to the area's traditional wooden houses formed the Preservation Society of Gion Shinbashi to block this proposal. After city officials intervened and initiated lengthy negotiations between the townspeople and the builders, a compromise was reached: The new four-story building was built to resemble a wooden three-story structure from the outside.

Encouraged by the Society's success, the local people of Gion Shinbashi campaigned to have the whole area designated as a preservation district. Although there was some opposition by the people in the vicinity of Gion Shinbashi, in 1974 the local people and the City of Kyoto reached an agreement to designate this area, which comprises over 100 buildings, as the Special Preservation Area of Historical Buildings. In 1976, this area was designated again as the Preservation Area for Groups of Historic Buildings under a Kyoto municipal regulation enforced in 1976.

According to this regulation, the City of Kyoto will grant subsidies to repair, rebuild or renovate the buildings in the preservation area if these projects are deemed necessary for preserving the area's scenery. In the last 21 years, more than 240 conservation works were carried out in Gion Shinbashi; as a result, the buildings have been repaired and the area's historical atmosphere has been further enhanced.

# The 5th World Conference of Historical Cities

Xian, China  
Sept. 9 - 13, 1996



In November 1995, the Organizing Committee for the 5th World Conference of Historical Cities in Xian, China mailed conference invitations to over 100 cities around the world.

The contents of the invitation packet include the conference schedule, an outline of the session topics, a list of materials that each participating city is requested to submit and the official registration forms. The registration deadline is February 1, 1996.

In addition to the local sightseeing tours that are part of the conference schedule, three optional, post-conference tours to several other cities are being planned by the Organizing Committee.

For more information on the 5th Conference, please contact the following persons below:

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Ms. Li Xue Mei  
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## A Day in Xian - Part II: A Report by a Kyoto Delegate

The markets hustle and bustle all day long. Countless shops selling various foods and daily necessities stand on both sides of the streets. A great number of people shop with an armful of goods over exchanging their loud voices. I was almost keeled over by their energy.

At night, there are lots of lighted stalls and stands on the streets which sell foods and other goods. Tables and benches are set on sidewalks where people chat and eat grilled meats on skewers, chow mein (fried noodles), noodles in soup, one-pot dishes and so on. In the darkness of night, the stalls and stands probably give mental nourishment to the local people.

I often saw some men around the table playing card-games like poker. It must be fun after work. I also heard that these days karaoke (singing to a prerecorded musical accompaniment) is very popular in China; what I heard turned out to be true. There were many karaoke bars on the streets and in hotels. I thought that people's ways of living have diversified as Xian's economy becomes more active in various fields.

In one word, my impression of China is that she is full of energy. It is absorbing new culture and positively preserving its old culture at the same time. This historic country needs to solve problems concerning preservation and development which other historical cities also have. However, I think China can turn such problems into a driving force for making rapid progress.

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Cracow (Republic of Poland)  
Cusco (Republic of Peru)  
Dublin (Ireland)  
Edinburgh (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

Fez (Kingdom of Morocco)  
Florence (Republic of Italy)  
Guadalajara (United Mexican States)  
Hanoi (Socialist Republic of Viet Nam)  
Isfahan (Islamic Republic of Iran)  
Istanbul (Republic of Turkey)  
Jerusalem (State of Israel)  
Kaesong (Democratic People's Republic of Korea)  
Katmandu (Kingdom of Nepal)  
Kiev (Ukraine)  
Kyongju (Republic of Korea)  
Kyoto (Japan)  
Lahore (Islamic Republic of Pakistan)  
Lisbon (Portuguese Republic)  
Melbourne (Australia)  
Mexico City (United Mexican States)

Montreal (Canada)  
Nanjing (People's Republic of China)  
Paris (French Republic)  
Prague (Czech Republic)  
Quebec (Canada)  
Rio de Janeiro (Federative Republic of Brazil)  
Rome (Republic of Italy)  
Tashkent (Republic of Uzbekistan)  
Tunis (Republic of Tunisia)  
Ulan Bator (Mongolia)  
Varanasi (India)  
Vienna (Republic of Austria)  
Xian (People's Republic of China)  
Yogyakarta (Republic of Indonesia)  
Zagreb (Republic of Croatia)  
Zurich (Swiss Confederation)

*This article is part of an ongoing series of feature articles on historical preservation issues faced by world historical cities.*

# MELBOURNE

## Building On Our Heritage Strengths



Revitalized river frontages of the Yarra River. The new Southgate development includes a hotel, restaurants, shops and promenades.

Located on Australia's southeastern coast, Melbourne is one of the world's great Victorian cities which flourished on the wealth created by the 1850s gold rush.

A lively and culturally diverse city, Melbourne is the traditional home of the banking and finance sectors in Australia, and the headquarters for many of the nation's major industrial, mining and educational and research institutions. With a population of 3,156,706 (ABS 1991 Census), Melbourne is the capital city of the state of Victoria as well as Australia's second largest city.

Melbourne encompasses the Central Business District, the city's premier commercial and retail precinct. Adjoining residential areas house 40,000 residents.

Rather than outline a specific restoration project, this summary outlines the City of Melbourne's policy framework and financial measures for ensuring the retention and promotion of our city's heritage.

### *Council's Role*

The components of the Council's policy framework include:

1. Liaising with the State Government and Community Organizations. The State Government is responsible for preparing legislation that will plan for Melbourne's growth and development and provide statutory protection for individual buildings which have historic or architectural merit. This is done by preparing planning legislation and by creating heritage registers. The legislation covering heritage registers provide protection for items of heritage significance such as trees, statues, buildings and bridges.

The Council has worked together with the State Government and Community Organizations like the National Trust to develop a register of buildings and heritage features that are particularly noteworthy. Registration guards against demolition and requires the careful assessment of any proposed alterations.

2. While statutory guidelines can protect individual buildings or heritage features, the Council has a role in educating against unsympathetic development that may alter the character of whole streets or overshadow adjoining historic buildings. The Council has therefore worked with the State Government to prepare planning and design guidelines that promote a better appreciation for the need for new development and to have sympathy with adjoining historic buildings and streetscapes.

3. Heritage is much more than the architecture of the city. Continuing historical research has updated the Council's inventories of heritage features. This research has included a focus on the cultural and social development of historic precincts in the city and has culminated in the publication of a history of the city and its development. This history is used by planners, architects, students and visitors to the city to gain a better understanding of the events which have shaped the city's development.

4. Promotion and education. The Council also takes an active role in marketing the city and its heritage assets. An example of this is the range of recently installed heritage plaques which provide visitors to the city with information on significant sites and the development of Melbourne.

5. A further initiative is the publication of walking tour guides. These guides provide historical commentary and make heritage accessible to those who come to the city.

6. Owners of historic buildings in Australia are given no automatic taxation dispensations, though in particular circumstances variations are possible. The City of Melbourne has recognized that maintaining historic buildings may in fact cost an owner more than maintaining a newer building. As a result, the City and the State Governments have introduced the Melbourne Heritage Restoration Fund.

The Melbourne Restoration Fund is unique in Australia. As equal partners in this venture, the Council and State Government of Victoria have established a pool of capital to provide low interest loans for restoration work within the City of Melbourne. The fund has been instrumental in bringing back to life the features and integrity of some of the City's many notable buildings which had fallen into disrepair - or were obscured by unsympathetic renovations.

7. Other Council incentives include the operation of a plot ratio bonus system. Introduced to encourage developers to recognize the benefits of restoring city heritage, increased floor space and/or building heights, these bonuses are available for the preservation and restoration of historic buildings on sites other than the site subject to a development application. In this way, a development is given optimal use of its site in return for an investment in the retention of Melbourne's heritage.



A unique city sight in Australia is the trams which still run on Melbourne's 30-meter wide, broad tree-lined streets.

### *Other Council Roles*

The importance of archaeological heritage surrounding the settlement of Melbourne has also been acknowledged by the Council. Major sites have been researched and recorded with the financial assistance of the City of Melbourne. This has included Melbourne's first registered cemetery dating from 1837 located on the fringe of the Central Business District.

The City of Melbourne has major sister city relationships with many international cities. One such city is Tianjin in China. Tianjin has many unique heritage features that mark different periods in the development of this old walled city. The expanding population of this city has created building pressures that threaten to obscure features of the city. In recognition of the need to prepare a conservation review and strategy for Tianjin, the City of Melbourne financially assisted the 1991 study by the Australian Institute of Urban Studies and sent staff to conduct field research and prepare strategies for conservation.

### *Conclusion*

Heritage adds to the vitality of our city, its culture and tourism potential. Through the above range of planning measures, the City of Melbourne is achieving greater recognition of our city's heritage through partnerships built with building owners and the community.

For more information on this article, please contact: Mr. John Riley  
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ANZ Bank headquarters

Member Cities' Update

# The **Budapest** Spring Festival

March 14 - April 14, 1996

The Budapest Spring Festival has become one of the greatest cultural events of the Hungarian capital.



In 1991 the festival opened its doors to the international and contemporary art scene while continuing to present the fullest range of Hungarian artists and traditional works.

The Festival '96, celebrating the millicentennial anniversary of Hungary, opens with the Budapest Symphony Orchestra performance at the Academy of Music in Budapest on March 14th. In addition, there will be a number of other exciting events such as opera, ballet, jazz and other performances by various artists.

*(Article and photos provided by the Hungarian Tourism Service)*

Gala concert at the Budapest Congress Center



For more information, please contact:

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*If your city would like to have an article published in this section of the Bulletin, please send all articles and photographs to the League of Historical Cities Secretariat. The subject of the article may be an advertisement for an event in your city, a project report on preservation of historic areas, or feature stories on art, culture, music, etc.*

## Global Technology Symposium to be Held in **Cracow**

Prof. Marek Szymonski, Vice Rector of Jagiellonian University visited Kyoto City to inform the League Secretariat that an international conference, titled "The World of New Technologies," will be held at the Center of Japanese Art and Technology in Cracow, Poland, from May 15-18, 1996. Prof. Szymonski's visit was arranged with the help of Józef Lassota, Mayor of Cracow.

Organized by Jagiellonian University and the Center of Japanese Art and Technology in Cracow, this conference program includes presentations by internationally recognized speakers on the latest developments and future directions in multimedia, biological and environmental technologies and other fields.

The Center of Japanese Art and Technologies will also feature a special exhibition.

For more information, please contact:

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Phone: +48 12 22 10 33 Fax: +48 12 22 17 57.

## **Boston** to Host Sister Cities International Conference

The City of Boston will proudly host the 40th annual Sister Cities International Conference for guests from 2,446 cities in 111 countries around the world, including a number of League members, which have sister city relationships with American cities. The conference will take place in Boston during July 24th through the 27th, 1996.

The theme of the conference, the Boston "T" Party, will focus on trade, technology and tourism. Events will include an economic development forum and a trade fair with exhibitors from throughout the U.S. and abroad.

In honor of this important occasion, Boston expects to host the largest conference ever, including representatives from each of our six sister cities: Barcelona, Melbourne, Kyoto, Hanzhou, Strasbourg and Padua.

For more information, please contact:

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WORLD

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

# HISTORICAL CITIES

NO. 7: APRIL 1996



# ZURICH



# Historic Townscapes of Kyoto

## A Look at the Saga Toriimoto Area



Ichino Torii at the foot of Mt. Atago where the Atago Shrine is located. Local people have a fire prevention charm from Atago Shrine on the kitchen wall in their houses and restaurants.

For centuries, the Sagano area has been loved by Japanese people for its scenic beauty. The area's many temples, shrines and traditional townhouses set amid beautiful and quiet natural scenery attract many visitors year round. Mountains, rivers, ponds, bamboo forests, rice fields, famous temples and ruins immortalized in classic literature and farmhouses along the road make up Sagano's best qualities and embody the collective memories of past ages.

Saga Toriimoto is located northwest of Sagano, stretches approximately 600 meters along the Atago-kaido Road and covers an area of about 2.6 hectares.

In order to preserve Saga Toriimoto's historical townscape and surrounding natural environment, the City of Kyoto entrusted two universities to conduct research on the area. The two research groups carefully studied the architectural style of the buildings in the district, their construction methods and the historic qualities of the townscape which were derived from the history of the Sagano area. The city government then drew up a preservation plan based on both groups' research results.

Saga Toriimoto can be divided into two districts, Kami-chiku (Upper District) and Shimo-chiku (Lower District). Adashino Nenbutsu-ji Temple stands on the border between these two districts.

Kami-chiku, which is located near Atago Shrine's Ichino Torii (the First Gate), features farmhouse-like structures with thatched roofs, while Shimo-chiku's buildings more closely resemble townhouses. The buildings in these districts stand in rows with the surrounding mountains, ponds, bamboo forests, fields and rivers in the background, resulting in an elegant and beautiful view. It is believed that these kinds of houses began to appear in the middle of the 17th century. Unlike houses today, the houses of that era were few in number and dotted the area. Most of the local residents earned a living from agriculture and forestry industries as well as tea houses and stores for people who climbed up Mt. Atago to pray.

About half of the 50 buildings in this preservation area are built in traditional styles of architecture; of these traditional buildings, most were built between the late Edo Period and the Meiji Era. These buildings can be largely classified into one-story farmhouse-style houses with thatched roofs, one-story townhouses with clay tile roofs and townhouses with clay tile roofs in the *mushiko-zukuri* style.

While Saga Toriimoto's traditional buildings need to be repaired to preserve their outer appearances, the area's non-traditional buildings require external remodeling that will permit them to harmonize with the traditional buildings. To preserve the overall environment of the group of traditional buildings,



hedges, drainage channels and streets also need to be preserved or remodeled. Building reparations or remodelings only require external changes in the buildings' appearances that match the buildings' traditional style of architecture. Residents are free to reform the inside of their buildings in ways that best suit their lifestyles. City government supports the residents by subsidizing part of the costs for renovation and repair.

Before the 1970s, it was generally believed that the Saga Toriimoto Area would always remain in its historical state because of its location far from the city center. But the gradual expansion of urban traffic networks and new roads rapidly made the area into a major urban and sightseeing spot. Although the historical townscapes in neighboring areas of Saga Toriimoto had disappeared by degrees, local residents of Saga Toriimoto were able to preserve its townscape with their great efforts. However the local residents began to worry that their townscape might be threatened by the steady urbanization moving toward this area.

From 1978 to 1979, city authorities and local residents exchanged opinions on designating the area as a preservation district and ideas for preservation projects after the area's designation. At first, the local residents were afraid that the designation might impose restrictions on their daily lives. In response to these concerns, the city authorities showed the local residents past successful examples where residents of other historical buildings were able to reform the interiors of their buildings and preserve the traditional architectural style of the buildings' exteriors.



Adashino Nenbutsu-ji Temple. Long ago, people who died without relatives to take care of their graves were buried here. Over 8,000 stone Buddha images and pagodas were built to comfort their souls.

As a result the authorities were able to relieve the residents' worries and convince them that preservation of their townscape could lead to good results and a comfortable living environment. Furthermore, the residents agreed on the preservation project proposed by the city authorities, formed the "Association for Preservation of the Saga Toriimoto Area" and began to promote the association's activities. The Saga Toriimoto area was designated as a "Preservation Area for Groups of Historic Buildings" by the City of Kyoto in 1979.



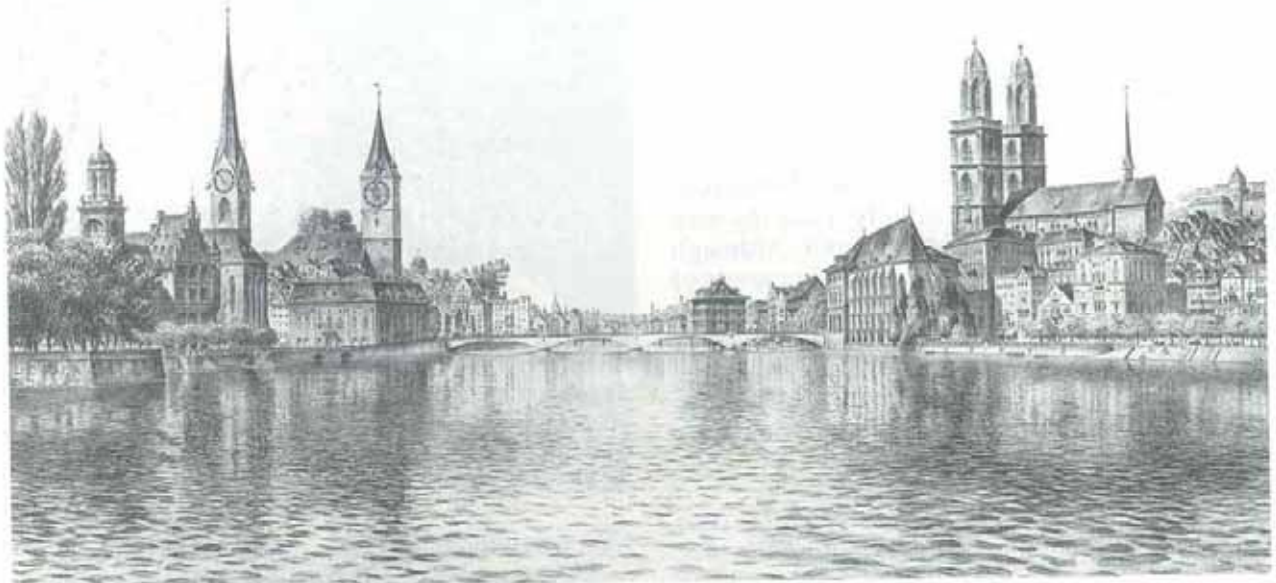
From *Woodblock Prints of Kyoto's Landmarks* (published in 1780)

Ichino-Torii can be seen on the bottom left of the picture.

Atago Shrine can be seen in the upper middle half of the picture.

*This article is part of an ongoing series of feature articles on historical preservation issues faced by world historical cities.*

## Preserving the Cultural Heritage of **ZURICH**



This lithography by Karl Bickel (circa 1920) shows Zurich's old town as it still is, seen from the lake. At the right of the Limmat, the twin towers of Grossmünster, above the Münster bridge, reign over a unique group of urban buildings. On the river's left bank, the two spires of Fraumünster and St. Peter's form a rhythmic counterbalance to Grossmünster's towers.

The City of Zurich has a present-day population of 360,000, with a total of 1 million for the conurbation as a whole. Although not Switzerland's capital, Zurich is by far the largest city in the country - a national center with a special role to play in the services, industrial and financial sectors.

Along with London, Paris and Frankfurt, Zurich can be counted among Europe's four leading financial centers. Accordingly, the many cultural institutions in Zurich have acquired an importance which transcends the city's regional significance. Indeed, their achievements are held in such high esteem that, seen internationally, it is easy to forget just how small the city actually is.

Straddling the banks of the Limmat, the old town has its own very special charm. Saved from past, radical attempts at redevelopment, it remains a largely intact example of the architectural heritage of earlier centuries. Founded by the Romans in the year 15 B.C., it was only in the Middle Ages that Zurich began its rise to political and economic importance. In 1800, still confined by walls and ramparts, the city had a population of only 10,000. The levelling of these fortifications after 1833 was a turning point for the city and led to its rapid expansion.

From the mid-19th century, the intensive growth of the railways has established the station as the hub of Zurich's

growing transport network, the heart of a city envisaged at that time as a true metropolis. An advisory commission - the so-called "Baukollegium" - has overseen the city's development since 1860, guided by the canton's first building regulations which date from 1863. These regulations not only stipulated the space between buildings and their height, but also set certain aesthetic standards. Zurich's renowned Bahnhofstrasse, a lime tree boulevard defined by the five-story office buildings and imposing banks which were to rise up over the following years, is the main work of this era, and is now the symbol and center of Switzerland's economic might.

Today government officials and inhabitants alike are all convinced of the need to preserve these characteristically beautiful and valuable buildings for posterity - buildings which date back over hundreds of years. The Swiss political system grants considerable rights of participation in the molding of the cultural environment, not only to citizens' initiatives, but also to the local and cantonal authorities. It has thus been possible on many occasions to rescue architectural monuments from demolition or decay at the last moment and, as part of a democratic process, to place them under protection for subsequent, appropriate use.

The creation of the city's Department of Archaeology and Building Conservation in 1958 saw the introduc-



This photograph of the Schipfe dates from about 1950. The group of houses, characteristic of the late Middle Ages and situated on the river's left bank at the foot of Lindenhof, has often been threatened by large development projects.

tion of modern practices based on well-founded scientific methods for the preservation of historical and cultural artifacts. With the drafting of Switzerland's Environmental and National Heritage Laws in 1966, these practices became written into the Federal Constitution. The Canton of Zurich's Planning and Building Regulations of 1975 have provided a sound legal basis for the present-day preservation of buildings and monuments.

Between 1981 and 1993, both local government and City Council took a comprehensive inventory of the region's protected artistic and historical artifacts, and about 5,000 are now listed: churches, representative public buildings, villas, town and farmhouses and their surroundings, gardens and parks. It will henceforth be assured that Zurich's principal cultural heritage will remain both intact and well-maintained.



This 1930s postcard shows the memorial to the politician and railway magnate Alfred Escher. The memorial stands in front of the 1871 triumphal arch of the station with which he is closely associated.

## The League of Historical Cities List

- Accra (Republic of Ghana)
- Alexandria (Arab Republic of Egypt)
- Amsterdam (Kingdom of the Netherlands)
- Athens (Hellenic Republic)
- Barcelona (Spain)
- Bordeaux (French Republic)
- Boston (United States of America)
- Bratislava (Slovak Republic)
- Brussels (Kingdom of Belgium)
- Budapest (Republic of Hungary)
- Chiang Mai (Kingdom of Thailand)
- Cologne (Federal Republic of Germany)
- Cracow (Republic of Poland)
- Cusco (Republic of Peru)
- Dublin (Ireland)
- Edinburgh (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
- Fez (Kingdom of Morocco)
- Florence (Republic of Italy)
- Guadalajara (United Mexican States)
- Hanoi (Socialist Republic of Viet Nam)
- Isfahan (Islamic Republic of Iran)
- Istanbul (Republic of Turkey)
- Jerusalem (State of Israel)
- Kaesong (Democratic People's Republic of Korea)
- Katmandu (Kingdom of Nepal)
- Kiev (Ukraine)
- Kyongju (Republic of Korea)
- Kyoto (Japan)
- Lahore (Islamic Republic of Pakistan)
- Lisbon (Portuguese Republic)
- Melbourne (Australia)
- Mexico City (United Mexican States)
- Montreal (Canada)
- Nanjing (People's Republic of China)
- Paris (French Republic)
- Prague (Czech Republic)
- Quebec (Canada)
- Rio de Janeiro (Federative Republic of Brazil)
- Rome (Republic of Italy)
- Tashkent (Republic of Uzbekistan)
- Tunis (Republic of Tunisia)
- Ulan Bator (Mongolia)
- Varanasi (India)
- Vienna (Republic of Austria)
- Xian (People's Republic of China)
- Yogyakarta (Republic of Indonesia)
- Zagreb (Republic of Croatia)
- Zurich (Swiss Confederation)

## Greeting from the Mayor of Kyoto

It is my great honor and privilege to extend my greetings to you through the Bulletin.

My predecessor, Mr. Tomoyuki Tanabe, resigned from office. Following the mayoral election, I took over the office of Mayor of Kyoto on February 26, 1996.

I shall make every effort to further develop Kyoto into a city that is not only loved by its citizens but also by people all over the world, for its continuous energy and for its history, culture, academics and industries.

As you may know, the League of Historical Cities was established to contribute to eternal world peace by accumulating the wisdom of historical cities, by tackling numerous issues, and by developing multifaceted exchanges between cities. As the Mayor of Kyoto, which is serving as the League Secretariat, I shall endeavor to carry out the responsibility of developing the League.

I sincerely appreciate any cooperation and encouragement you may render to me in fulfilling this noble duty.

梶原 頼兼

Yorikane Masumoto  
Mayor of Kyoto



*Born in 1941. Graduated from the law department of Chuo University in 1963 and joined the Kyoto City Board of Education the same year. Served as Superintendent of the Board of Education since 1992 before assuming the office of mayor in February 1996.*

As of March 10th, 28 league member cities and 18 non-member cities (see list below) have notified the City of Xian of their intent to participate in the 5th World Conference.

The Organizer and the League Secretariat hope that other cities which have not yet applied to participate in the Conference will be able to participate, as the conference's success depends on your cooperation and support.

### LEAGUE MEMBER CITIES

Alexandria (Arab Republic of Egypt)  
Amsterdam (Kingdom of the Netherlands)  
Athens (Hellenic Republic)  
Barcelona (Spain)  
Budapest (Republic of Hungary)  
Chiang Mai (Kingdom of Thailand)  
Cracow (Republic of Poland)  
Dublin (Ireland)  
Florence (Republic of Italy)  
Hanoi (Socialist Republic of Viet Nam)  
Istahan (Islamic Republic of Iran)  
Istanbul (Republic of Turkey)  
Jerusalem (State of Israel)  
Katmandu (Kingdom of Nepal)  
Kiev (Ukraine)  
Kyongju (Republic of Korea)  
Kyoto (Japan)  
Lisbon (Republic of Portugal)  
Montreal (Canada)  
Paris (French Republic)  
Rio de Janeiro (Federative Republic of Brazil)  
Rome (Republic of Italy)  
Ulan Bator (Mongolia)  
Varanasi (India)

Vienna (Republic of Austria)  
Xian (People's Republic of China)  
Zagreb (Republic of Croatia)  
Zurich (Swiss Confederation)

### NON-MEMBER CITIES

Amman (Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan)  
Ayutthaya (Kingdom of Thailand)  
Cairo (Arab Republic of Egypt)  
Dnepropetrovsk (Ukraine)  
Dortmund (Federal Republic of Germany)  
The Hague (Kingdom of the Netherlands)  
Iasi (Romania)  
Konya (Republic of Turkey)  
London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)  
Moscow (Russian Federation)  
Pau (French Republic)  
Phnom Penh (Kingdom of Cambodia)  
Plovdiv (Republic of Bulgaria)  
Santiago (Spain)  
Shiraz (Islamic Republic of Iran)  
St. Petersburg (Russian Federation)  
Valletta (Republic of Malta)  
Yangon (Union of Myanmar)

## The 5th World Conference of Historical Cities

Xian, China  
Sept. 9 - 13, 1996

### For more information:

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WORLD

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

# HISTORICAL CITIES

NO. 8: JULY 1996



Vienna's Grabenstraße and Pestsäule

## **VIENNA**

**Kyoto's Kamigamo District**

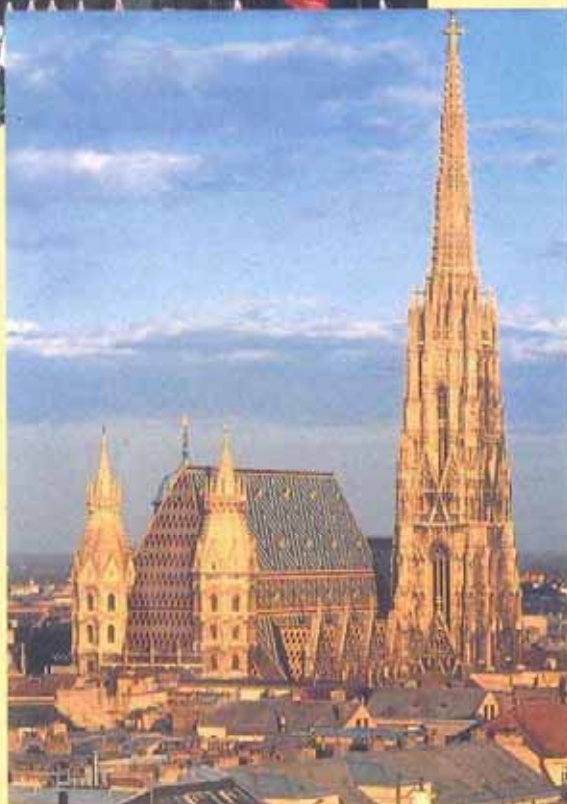
**5th World Conference in Xian**

**Member Cities' Update:**

**Zagreb**

**Barcelona**

**Interview**



Stephansdom in Vienna

# The Restoration of A Historic Building in VIENNA



Palais Harrach shortly after World War II



Palais Harrach after renovation

It is undoubtedly one of the most important concerns of historical cities to preserve buildings which possess high historical and artistic value. We must strive for a connection between the buildings' historical and cultural heritage and their modern-day functions and requirements.

One example of a particularly successful rehabilitation of a famous old building in Vienna is Palais Harrach, a building whose cultural assets have been decisive for Vienna's artistic reputation until today.

Located in the centre of Vienna, in the historic square of "Freyung" opposite a monastery, this house, which now shines in fresh splendor after a careful renovation, looks back on a long, eventful history.

### *Home of the Rich and Powerful*

Palais Harrach was originally owned by Baron Karl von Harrach, who was made a count in 1627. In 1689 Count Bonaventura Harrach began the reconstruction of the palace, which had been substantially damaged during a fire in 1683. He commissioned the most renowned architects of the time to carry out the reconstruction of the building.

Those were the days when the rich and powerful were seen at this magnificent palace. In 1850 the rooms were adapted to house the Harrach Picture Gallery, one of the most significant private collections at the time. No fewer than 1,000 first-rate paintings, acquired through the

active purchasing policy of the family, were framed by valuable vitrines with glasses, medals, miniature portraits, brooches and other small objets d'art.

### *Neglect and Renewal*

After suffering severe damage during an air raid in 1944, the palace was restored to its original baroque state between 1949 and 1952. Following a partition of the estate, the famous paintings collection was relocated to the country house of Rohrau in 1970 and the palace itself was sold in 1975.

Then came a period during which the palace was left to deteriorate. In 1990, however, it passed into the possession

of one of Austria's largest banks and was then extensively renovated and rehabilitated.

All the rooms have been restored in accordance with strict rules of monument protection. The elaborate rehabilitation of stucco, imitation marble, painting and gilding, the metal and textile restoration, the reconstruction of the valuable wooden floors and the electrification of the splendid old chandeliers are further proof of the world-renowned excellence of Austrian restorers.

When an inventory of the furnishings was made, details were discovered which required the taste and discernment of an art historian to guarantee ar-



The grand staircase of the palace

tistic excellence and homogeneous appearance after completion.

The experts believed that the grand staircase contained some concha niches on the upper pedestal. They were indeed revealed from under the plastering during the renovation and restored in order to enhance the grandeur of the staircase (photo).

Another challenge concerned the ceiling frescoes in the gallery: the task was to bring about an elegant harmony between the early baroque painting and the restoration work of the 19th century.

A good compromise was achieved by uncovering the best preserved sections of the baroque quadrature painting and keeping the more recent overpainting. The ceiling, the segments of wall hangings on the longitudinal wall and the mirrors on the opposite wall with its row of windows offer the visitor a view which is both harmonious and true to style (photo).

The smaller, less impressive rooms which are now used for office, residential or commercial purposes, were restored to be both practical and authentic.

#### *The Centerpiece of Rehabilitation*

Nevertheless, it was the restoration of the state rooms of Palais Harrach which represented the centerpiece of rehabilitation. Access to the rooms of the former bel etage is via the former entrance hall and the former grand staircase. These rooms were placed at the disposal of the Austrian Museum of Fine Arts, one of the world's most significant art collections.

The Museum has set itself the task of filling the palace with new life while attending to all aspects of conservation



The Great Gallery of Palais Harrach

and restoration. The rooms are being used for readings, lectures, concerts and receptions, and the palace has once again become one of Vienna's cultural and social centers within a short period of time.

#### *Multiple-Use Concept*

Next to the social events mentioned above, it is one of the Museum's main concerns to organize special exhibitions which, given the peculiar arrangement of the rooms at the Museum of Fine Arts, cannot be realized on the premises of their own building.

Thus the baroque ambience of the palace offers a harmonious background for the presentation of the Museum's less well-known collections (tapestries, objects of art from the "Kunstammer", and the imperial hunting and arms, old musical instruments and paintings collections) in a manner unrivalled by any

other location in Vienna.

The rehabilitation of Palais Harrach is one of Vienna's largest and most significant restoration projects in the recent past. It was based on a multiple-use concept that combined the preservation of the valuable architectural heritage and a genuine resuscitation of the former magnificent palace by providing space for the great number of shops, offices, flats and spaces for social events in a single building.

For more information:

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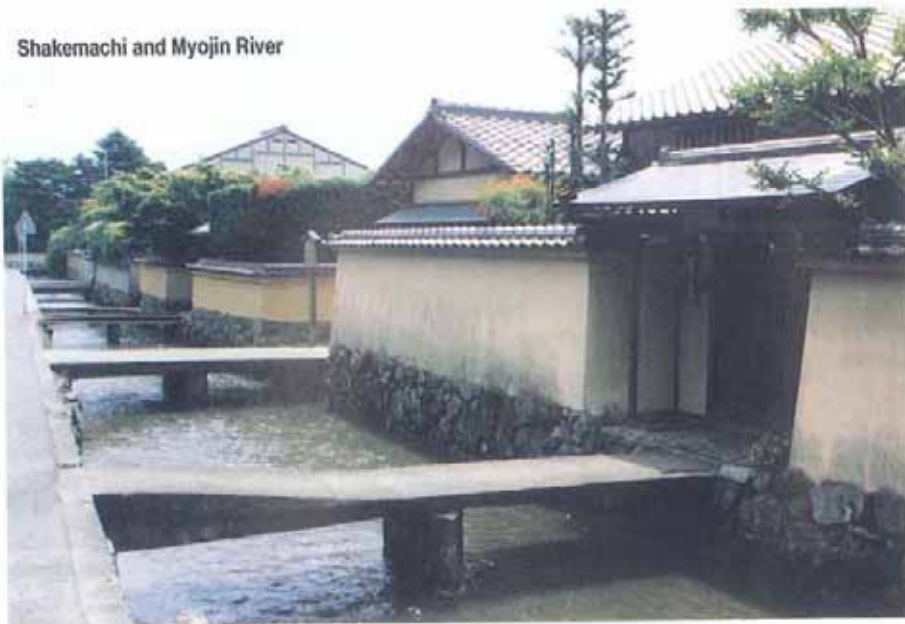
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Xian (People's Republic of China)  
Yogyakarta (Republic of Indonesia)  
Zagreb (Republic of Croatia)  
Zurich (Swiss Confederation)

Shakemachi and Myojin River



## Historic Townscapes of Kyoto

### A Look at the Kamigamo District

The Kamigamo district in northern Kyoto City was formed by Shinto priests and farmers around Kamigamo Shrine, one of 17 historic buildings in Kyoto that were designated as UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Sites in 1994, and the supposed residence of the guardian god of *Heian-kyo*, the ancient capital. The district has developed as a *shakemachi*, a residential district for priests since the Muromachi Period (1338-1573).

The district spreads 300 meters to the east along the Myojin River, which flows near Kamigamo Shrine. A number of *shakes*, or residences for priests, stand in a row along the river.

Most of these residences are built in a traditional Japanese fashion. Together with stone bridges, earthen garden walls, gates and green plants seen behind the walls, the *shakes* reflect the long cherished traditional landscape of Kamigamo.

Unlike the other Kyoto districts which have been introduced in back numbers of the *League of Historical Cities Bulletin*, the Kamigamo district is neither a commercial district nor a tourist spot, but a residential area.

#### *Beginning of the Preservation*

The Myojin River has always played an important role in the daily lives of the *shakes* and *shakemachi*. Although residents once washed rice and vegetables and laundered their clothes in the river, its waters are now mainly used for making ponds in their gardens.

However, in the early 1960s, the growing number of new houses that were built near the district began to pollute the Myojin River. Moreover, for the last decade, the townscape has been threatened by the construction rush of such buildings as apartments for college students.

In response to these threats, the local residents formed the Myojin River Preservation Association to periodically clean the river as a group. Encouraged by the city authorities, they formed the Kamigamo Townscape Preservation Association in 1988.

In the same year, the Kamigamo district was designated as a Preservation District for Groups of Historic Buildings by the city authorities and as a Special Preservation Dis-

trict for Groups of Historic Buildings by the national government, which provides financial assistance to support the local authorities. These designations bolstered the district's preservation efforts.

#### *Preservation Ordinances*

The city authorities carry out preservation activities mainly by enacting ordinances to protect the district and its houses. These ordinances outline architectural regulations and subsidies from the government.

The architectural regulations list specifications for building heights, construction materials, and other aspects of housing construction necessary for preserving the district's historic appearance.

The authorities "guide" the residents into remodeling modern buildings and repairing old buildings. This *gyoseishido*, or administrative guidance, functions so well that although the architectural laws have penalties, they have never been applied.

The government subsidies cover expenses to repair and remodel all the outer components of the townscape, such as houses, stone walls, bridges and trees in the gardens. Although there is a limit to these subsidies, they range from one third to two thirds of the expenses.

#### *Association Activities*

Some of the main activities of the association include cleaning the river four times a year, making sure the residents are following the architectural regulations, and, when necessary, actively lobbying for public and private sector support to preserve the district.



Kamigamo Shrine



For example, in 1990, the association successfully appealed to electric and telephone companies to remove utility poles along the river which spoiled the townscape.

Furthermore, the Kamigamo association is a member of the national union of preservation associations of designated historical towns.

Through information exchanges and discussions with other members of the union, the Kamigamo association keeps in contact with the preservation groups in other towns.

#### *The Future of Kamigamo*

While the residents are pleased that more people are getting to know Kamigamo and are visiting the district, they are reluctant to make their town a tourist spot because tourism is likely to do some damage to the well-preserved townscape.

Although the residents support the townscape's preservation, they oppose

the creation of stricter regulations in fear that further limitations will hinder their economic activities and daily lives.

In this way, the residents still live in the district, feeling quite ambivalent about the issues on preservation and development. However, it is ob-

vious that they are firmly determined to continue cherishing and preserving the townscape and environment which have been gradually built over the centuries since the Heian Period (794-1192).



Inner garden of a house in Kamigamo

## SPECIAL INTERVIEW

### Kamigamo Townscape Preservation Association

**WHC:** How many members does the association have?

**KTPA:** 50 families. This includes not only all the families who live in the district, but families who live in *shakes* just outside the district and support our activities.

**As you know, a *shake* was originally a house occupied by the family of a priest. Do priests still live in these houses?**

Only two priests remain here today. This is because most of the priests moved to Tokyo to be near the emperor when the capital of Japan was transferred from Kyoto to Tokyo in the mid 19th century, in the beginning of the Meiji Era. Also, since the hereditary system no longer exists, children of priests are free to choose other professions. Nowadays, people in the *shakes* have different occupations.

**There are few facilities in Kamigamo for tourists. Is the association planning to develop tourist facilities in the district?**

We do feel sorry that we cannot receive an increasing number of tourists in a satisfactory way. It would be difficult to commercialize this district for tourism because this area is basically residential. However, if possible, we hope we can make a museum or a historical archive.

**Does living in a designated district pose any difficulties for its residents?**

People living outside the district can enjoy the townscape, but the people who actually live here sometimes feel inconvenienced by the complex architectural regulations. Al-

though the government subsidies are helpful, we are still burdened by a property tax that is higher than what ordinary people pay. This is because we are advised to use costly special parts for repairs that will keep the appearance of old houses. So, we hope the authorities will increase the subsidies or take other measures to further assist us.

**Does the association have any message for the people who live in historical cities around the world?**

Even though living in historical buildings is sometimes inconvenient, we are truly proud of our houses which have long histories and environments that are compatible with their natural surroundings. No historical buildings and environments can be built in a day. Once destroyed, they can never be restored to what they used to be. So those of us living in these cities must continue to preserve these irreplaceable assets.



# The 5th World Conference of Historical Cities

Xian Garden Hotel  
Xian, China  
Sept. 9 - 13, 1996

As of May 22nd, 31 League member cities and 23 non-member cities have notified the City of Xian of their intent to participate in the 5th World Conference.

We, the City of Xian and the League Secretariat, will do our utmost to make this conference successful. Your active participation will be highly appreciated as the conference's success depends on your cooperation and support.

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

### Monday, September 9

- Registration
- Welcome Reception

### Tuesday, September 10

- Opening Ceremony
- Plenary Session
- Observation of Tang Dynasty Musical

### Wednesday, September 11

- Sessions
- General Assembly of the League

### Thursday, September 12

- Observation of the Opening Ceremony of the '96 China Xian Investment and Trade Forum
- Visit to the Museum of Emperor Qin Shihuang's Terra-Cotta Warriors and Horses, Hua Qing Hot Springs and Shaanxi History Museum
- Observation of the Opening Ceremony for the Ancient Culture and Art Festival

### Friday, September 13

- Closing Ceremony



The Xian Garden Hotel, a member of The Leading Hotels of the World, recaptures the spirit of the Tang Dynasty and brings visitors closer to the heart of ancient China.

A spacious garden, a museum specializing in the arts of the Tang Dynasty, and a theater restaurant where visitors can enjoy performing arts from the Tang Dynasty are conveniently located on the hotel property. Standing next to the Xian Garden Hotel is the Big Wild Goose Pagoda, where the renowned monk Xuanzhuang translated Buddhist scriptures.

We are confident that this hotel is the most appropriate venue for the 5th World Conference of Historical Cities.

Xian Garden Hotel  
4 Dong Yan Yin Lu, Da Yan Ta Xian 710061 China  
Tel: 029-526-1111 Fax: 029-526-1998 Telex: 70027 GAHTL CN • 70007 THHTL CN

WORLD

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

# HISTORICAL CITIES

NO. 9: SEP. 1996



The Houses of Parliament in Budapest

**Budapest**

**Isfahan**

**5th World Conference in Xian**

**Interview**



Kelisa-ye Vank in Isfahan

## Conserving Budapest's Heritage

A central European Capital defending its character



View from the Gellert Hill to the Southern part of the city with a prospect of the Chain Bridge, the Castle of Buda and the Margaret Island

Throughout the world, historical cities are struggling for the preservation of their character. Despite the destructive impact of modern life and industry, the city still bears many signs of its historical legacy and native geographical features.

However, the task of preserving Budapest's history must be treated differently. Although the fundamental problems are the same. The solutions and methods vary according to each city. Each has original features, a historical past and resulting differences in its character as well as a different range of possibilities in the present. [fiscal and logistical differences] In order to help the reader identify with the problems of our city we would like to introduce the most important events in the development of Budapest.

The first characteristic of Budapest is its geographical position. Budapest lies in the heart of

the Carpathian basin, and has been the center of the Hungarian state for 1100 years-although not in the geographical sense. However, it is sufficient to look at the network of roads as well as different geographical and economic features to understand why Budapest was first inhabited and continued to flourish as a commercial and military centre since

the prehistoric age.

The most advantageous place within hundreds of kilometers for crossing the Danube can be found here; Budapest is a bridge city or, if the river is considered to be the border as it was during the Roman times, a gateway.

Everything in Hungary, the roads, the railways and even the telephone lines come to or start



Baroque Mansion-nowadays a museum

out from Budapest.

Budapest has been the capital of Hungary since the mid-19th century, at which time a large number of public buildings were erected, railways constructed and the city entered a period of rapid economic development. At first Viennese architecture was imitated, eclectic imperial capital, but by the turn of the century Budapest was one of the initiators of secession (Art Nouveau).

The last 150 year period is the age of urbanization. This period still continues today, despite the two wars and the siege of Budapest during 1944-45 which brought 40% of the city to the ground. Three months of war made the picture of the city similar to the time when it was occupied by the Turks, but in 20th century proportions.

This lively history of destruction and creation makes Budapest multi-faceted and dynamic, but simultaneously threatens its monuments with destruction.

Nevertheless, the overall picture of the city is balanced, with only the mass public housing projects of the past few decades tainting its original character.

However, due to the traditions in city planning and intensive research into the past face of the city, there is hope to save the charm of Budapest for the future. although it may not be as unified as some other western historical cities, it exudes a historical atmosphere with characteristic charm unequalled by other modern industrial metropolises.

The urban planning methods used in Budapest were published in 1992 and summarised the most important principles of similar western research projects (Hamburg, Vienna, small Austrian cities and Ronchamp), as well as Hungarian city research

projects documented since 1910.

The complex architectural analysis distinguishes 16 regions, blocks of buildings or parts of the city with special characteristics which require special protection.

Not all of these are of World Heritage importance, and the plan only tries to preserve their pleasant mood and original identity for those living there. However, parts of the inner city stretching for 5 kilometers along the Danube are registered on the list of UNESCO's Cultural World Heritage sites. This area is eclectic in architectural style and in regards to city planning. It also contains significant historical gothic, baroque and more modern romantic and secessionist styles with some necessary recent supplements.

A special problem of Budapest are the empty lots scattered throughout the city. The most recent of these are a result of the bombing during the Second World War, as well as demolition for various reasons.

The remaining parts of buildings on these sites require either restoration or preservation as ruins. However, some good things did arise from the misfortunes of war and artifacts of historical value were found from under these ruins either accidentally or by planned excavation.

For example, the base walls of ancient Roman buildings whose rooftops were burnt off by the Huns or the Goths, and a medieval garbage disposal site which hid 52 gothic statues from a palace of King Sigismund (approx. 1380) were found. Political unrest and modern life also took their toll on old buildings, some of which were destroyed in order to build bridges, a subway and so on.

Another important issue is that in spite of many plans Budapest is "the city of unfinished concepts". Experts know very well that it takes decades of hard work to give unified image to a city. Before a power, ideology, trend or other factors can terminally change a city, the next ones arrive bringing new ideas, concepts and colours.

It is worth mentioning only for its peculiarity that 40 years ago a concept was aimed at changing Budapest's circular structure to an orthogonal square network of roads for political reasons. Regimes come and regimes go, plans are partly implemented and partly forgotten but the city lives on and formulates its character.

There is no architectural concept able to provide the city with features more original and true than history itself.



The bridgehead of Elisabeth Bridge

Meidan-e Imam



## Isfahan in Iran

The emergence and formation of the historic city of Isfahan dates back many years before Christ. Two villages named Sarauyeh and Mehrin were united together after sometime and the foundation of urbanization and civilization was formed at this area. The process of development and urbanization of this city was intensified during the reigns of sultan Malek Shah Saljughy and Ale-Buyah (935-1196 AD).

The first development projects, and city buildings of this period had elements from Persian-Islamic patterns. The city expanded to the north, north east and towards the south. with Masjed-e jame (11th century AD) as its center.

After this period, in the course of transferring the capital of the country to Isfahan in the Safavi period the city was redeveloped and took on a new style with regard to the city-planning and architecture. With guidance by such learned scholars as Shaykh

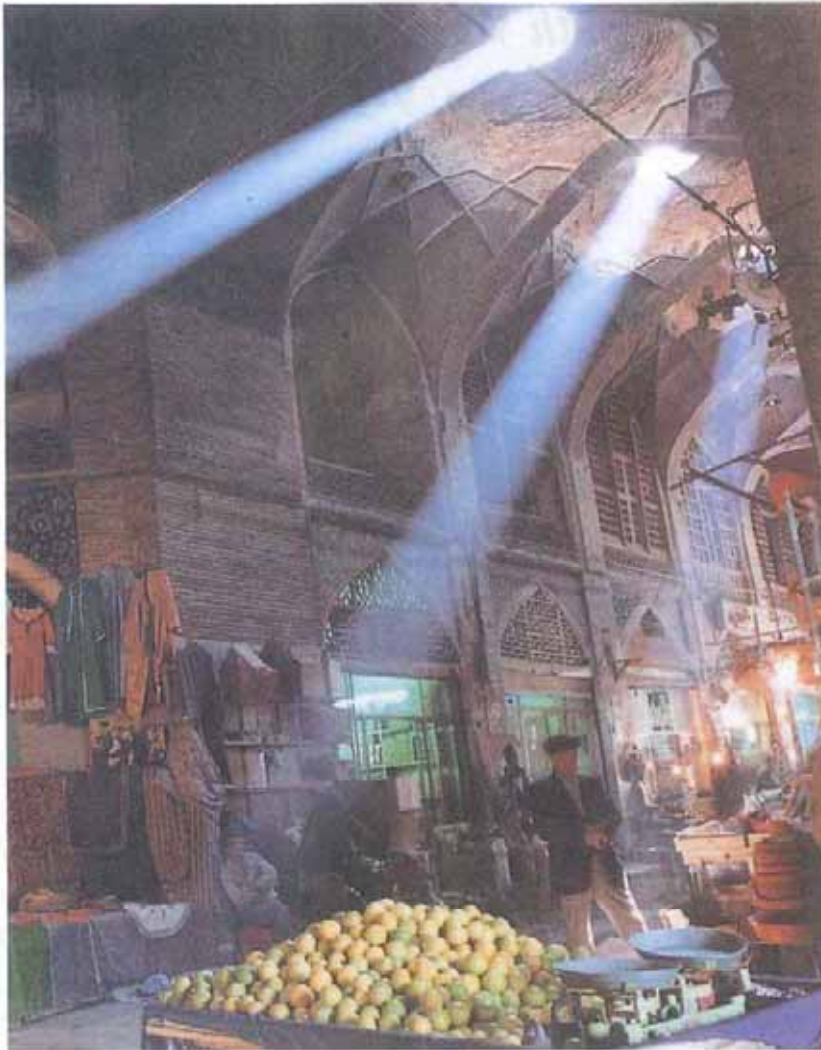
Bahei and engineers such as master Ali Akbar Memar et al. The unique architecture and artistic masterpieces like Chehelsoun Palace, Si-o se pol, Pole e khagu, Naghsh-e- jahan square (Eman) (1612 AD), and Chahar bagh street were built according to the latest city planning and

architectural standards and principles of that time. Presently the most of these buildings like the magnificent Masjed-e-Eman are registered on the UNESCO's list as World Cultural Heritage Sites.

There are two important geographical factors which protect



Chehelsotoun Palace



Bazaar-e-Gheisarieh

Isfahan and its ancient structures from ruin throughout the centuries. On one hand, the low rainfall (110 mm per annual) and the low rate of moisture protect the buildings. On the other hand, this ancient city is not situated on a fault line, and this has a proportionally effective role in preserving the traditional structures of the city.

However, unfortunately in the course of time, due to rapid economical development and changing life styles, people are moving from the old and traditional quarters to the modern part of the city.

These old quarters were left empty of dwellers and has lost its

dynamic functions of the city.

In this respect, Isfahan municipality already carried out activities to restore the important functions to these quarter and to rebuild traditional structures.

These activities include rehabilitation and reorganization of Meidan-e-Emam (1612AD) and elimination of travelling by automobile over the Historical bridges (si-o-sepol, khaju, shahrstan). In mid 1994, the municipality has established an organization for rehabilitation and conservation of Isfahan city" This group seeks to preserve precious cultural, artistic and architectural heritage which has formed the history of the city

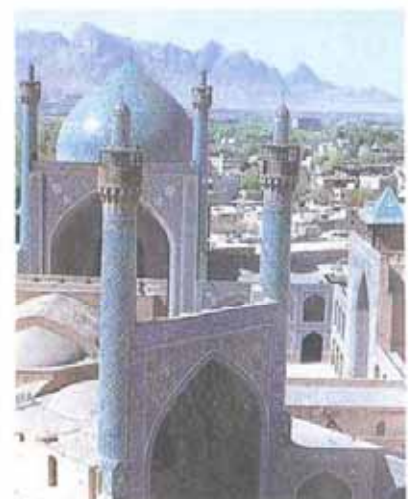
since the ancient times. Another function of this group is to create harmony and balance between the traditional areas of the city and modern structures, with due attention to economical and social perspective and ultimately to revive the traditional structure of the city.

The rehabilitation and reconstruction of Darvazeh Dilat Square and chahar-bagh street are to be put on the priority list of this organization and preliminary stage of the design is to be accomplished.

More over, to revive traditional quarters of the city, any urban activities in ancient areas are strictly controlled by this organization.

Further more, after negotiation between the cultural heritage organization and some city government officials some historic quarters were chosen for rebuilding. In this way the private sector has been motivated to invest in the ancient quarters, and ultimately revitalized the functions of these quarters: Dardasht, joybarez, khaju and jolfa.

For more information on the rehabilitation activities in Isfahan, please contact Mr. Khalil Jafarpisheh chief of public and International Relations Office of the organization.



Masjed-e Emam

## WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES

# *Information Update for the 5th World Conference of Historical Cities in Xian, Sep. 9-13, 1996*

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Date	Morning	Noon	Afternoon	Evening
<b>SEPT 9th (Mon)</b>		<b>Luncheon</b> (Xian Garden Hotel) 12:00 - 13:30	<b>Preliminary Session</b> (Xian Garden Hotel) 14:30 - 15:30 <b>Press Conference</b> (Xian Garden Hotel) 16:00 - 17:00	<b>Cocktail Party</b> (Golden Flower hotel) 18:30 - 19:00 <b>Welcome Party</b> (Golden Flower hotel) 19:00 - 21:00
<b>SEPT 10th (Tue)</b>	<b>Opening Ceremony</b> (Grand New World Hotel) 9:00 - 11:30	<b>Luncheon</b> (Grand Castle Hotel Xian) 12:00 - 13:30	<b>Session</b> (Grand Castle Hotel Xian) 14:30 - 15:40	<b>General Assembly of the League</b> (Xian Garden Hotel) 16:10 - 18:10 <b>Tang Dynasty style Song and Dance show</b> (Tang Yue Gong) 19:10 - 21:45
<b>SEPT 11th (Wed)</b>	<b>Session</b> 8:30 - 11:00	<b>Luncheon</b> (Xian Garden Hotel) 11:30 - 13:40	<b>The Museum of Emperor Qin Shi Huang's Terra-Cotta Warriors &amp; Horses</b> <b>The Shaanxi History Museum</b> 13:40 - 17:30	<b>Dinner Party</b> (Xian Garden Hotel) 18:00 - 19:30 <b>Shopping</b> 19:45 - 21:15
<b>SEPT 12th (Thu)</b>	<b>Attending Xian Investment and Trade Forum</b> 9:00 - 10:30	<b>Closing Ceremony of Conference of Historical Cities</b> 11:00 - 12:00 <b>Presentation to the Press</b> 12:15 - 12:45 <b>Garden Party</b> (Chun Xian Garden) 12:50 - 14:30	<b>Visit to the Hi-Tech area</b> 15:20 - 16:45	<b>Welcome Party to the Ancient Culture and Arts Festival</b> (Jianguo Hotel Xian) 17:30 - 19:30 <b>Opening Ceremony of the Ancient Culture and Arts Festival</b> (Gymnasium) 20:00 - 21:30 <b>Fire works from City Wall</b> (Nancheng gate) 21:30 - 22:30
<b>SEPT 13th (Fri)</b>	FREE (LEFT TO THE DISCRETION OF THE PARTICIPANTS)			

### The League of Historical Cities List

Accra (Republic of Ghana) Alexandria (Arab Republic of Egypt) Amsterdam (Kingdom of the Netherlands) Athens (Hellenic Republic) Barcelona (Spain) Bordeaux (French Republic) Boston (United States of America) Bratislava (Slovak Republic) Brussels (Kingdom of Belgium) Budapest (Republic of Hungary) Chiang Mai (Kingdom of Thailand) Cologne (Federal Republic of Germany) Cracow (Republic of Poland) Cusco (Republic of Peru) Dublin (Ireland) Edinburgh (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)	Fez (Kingdom of Morocco) Florence (Republic of Italy) Guadalajara (United Mexican States) Hanoi (Socialist Republic of Viet Nam) Islahan (Islamic Republic of Iran) Istanbul (Republic of Turkey) Jerusalem (State of Israel) Kaesong (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) Katmandu (Kingdom of Nepal) Kiev (Ukraine) Kyongju (Republic of Korea) Kyoto (Japan) Lahore (Islamic Republic of Pakistan) Lisbon (Portuguese Republic) Melbourne (Australia) Mexico City (United Mexican States)	Montreal (Canada) Nanjing (People's Republic of China) Paris (French Republic) Prague (Czech Republic) Quebec (Canada) Rio de Janeiro (Federative Republic of Brazil) Rome (Republic of Italy) Tashkent (Republic of Uzbekistan) Tunis (Republic of Tunisia) Ulan Bator (Mongolia) Varanasi (India) Vienna (Republic of Austria) Xian (People's Republic of China) Yogyakarta (Republic of Indonesia) Zagreb (Republic of Croatia) Zurich (Swiss Confederation)
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WORLD

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

# HISTORICAL CITIES

NO. 10: MAR. 1997



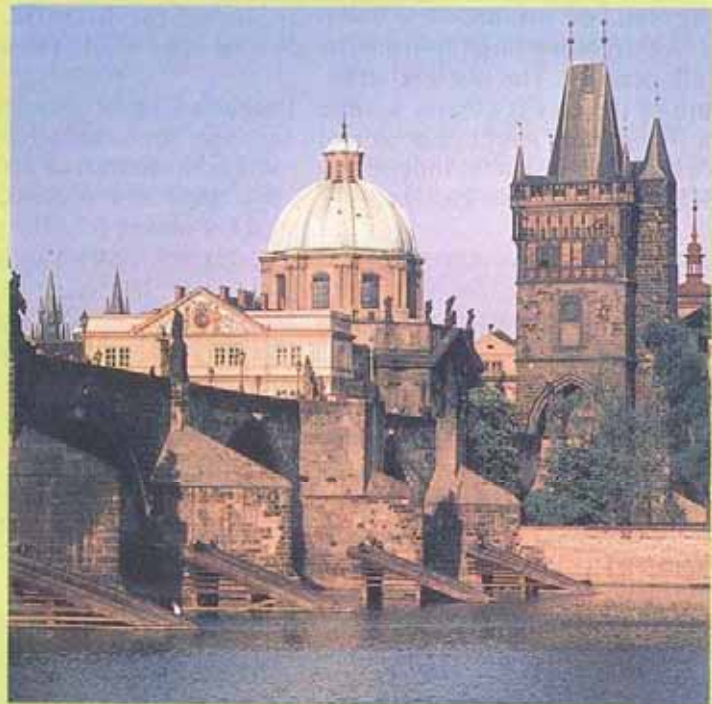
Bridges in the center of Prague

Prague

5th World Conference in Xian

New member cities

Interview



Charles Bridge and Bridge Tower

# The historic core of PRAGUE



Classical Panorama of Prague

## 1. Introduction

Prague's historic center, situated in the valley of the River Vltava, is the heart of this city. The oldest parts of the core—the Old Town, the Lesser Town and the Castle district - are of Romanesque origin, while the planned New Town is Gothic, being built up from the 14th century. The historic structure of the city is clearly visible in its primary street pattern and identifiable districts, ranged between the city's two castles.

In 1976 the government of the Republic proclaimed the entire city centre as an historic area protected by law. Protection was afforded to the network of streets, building heights and local character. The city authorities have created specialized organizations empowered with rights and means to implement these legal principles.

As many as thirteen National Cultural Monuments are located within the protected area, including Prague Castle, Vysehrad Castle and the Charles Bridge.

More than 1,400 other protected historic buildings and landmarks are found there. Of the more than 10,000 protected works of art and artifacts, most are located in the historic core. UNESCO in its regular session in December 1992 in Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA, included the historic core of Prague in its World Heritage List.

Prague's historic core of 800 ha accounts for a mere 1.6% of the total administrative area of the city. The core is presently inhabited by about 65,000 people - roughly 6% of the city's overall population. However the core offers over 200,000 job opportunities, representing one third of all jobs in Prague.

Compared to other great European cities, Prague is unique in its peaceful urban development over the past four and a half centuries. The last significant devastation was by fire in 1541. The first World War spared Prague entirely. While several buildings, some of historic importance, were destroyed in World War Two, the overall level of destruction was

very slight compared to that of cities in Germany, Britain, Poland, and elsewhere.

However Prague was not completely spared destruction of a different kind. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries's the picturesque Gothic Jewish Ghetto of Prague - part of the historic core - was demolished and replaced by residential blocks in the art nouveau style.

The development of Prague in the 19th century was likewise not typical: other European cities experienced major building booms, based on periods of powerful economic expansion, with the reconstruction of large sectors incorporating new communications networks.

In contrast, Prague was then a provincial town, denied the role of a capital cities between the early 17th century and the end of the First World War, and failed to undergo such radical development. Thus Prague preserved in its extensive central core not only the medieval [Romanesque and

Gothic] street network, but also the scale character and appearance of a medieval town.

The communist era [1948-1989] brought yet another form of destruction, that of deterioration through neglect: the lack of new investment and grossly inadequate maintenance, including historic buildings. This era was marked by the very different priorities for development characteristic of the ideologies of Communist societies.

There were, however, beneficial side-effects. Prague did not suffer the wave of commercialization which has transformed so profoundly the faces of Western European cities after the Second World War. Prague has been spared the vast out of scale transformations of the ground floors of buildings into shops.

The historic area has not been disfigured by the construction of aesthetically and dimensionally inappropriate structures or facades being obliterated by advertisements. The city center has not been invaded by motorways, garages, filling stations and similar facilities.

Development from a variety of historic periods have created a rounded and coherent complex. Prague does not - as with so many historic towns - consist of a spread of historic monuments separated by intervening modern townscapes. The city core has a continuity of historic townscape expressing a milieu of character, atmosphere and scale.

It is typical for Prague's core - and this lends it a special attractiveness - that streets and quarters have a mix of buildings from differing periods. Furthermore - and again typically - it is possible to find combinations from very different historic periods within one construction.

A good example is the Charles bridge itself: built in the 14th century in the Gothic style of the time, but decorated around three hundred years later by dozens of sculptor of highest Baroque style.

## 2. The Current Policy of the City for the Development of the Historic Core

### 2.1. Land Use Issue

The aim (of the new City Master Plan) is to preserve a specific level of permanent residents in the historic core: the current level of around 65,000 residents should not be allowed to fall to less than around 50,000 residents.

The historic core should become neither a sterile open air museum nor a commercial office-dominated downtown devoid of residents and life after working hours. To achieve this aim will require an effective housing policy, especially with regard to social structure which at present includes large proportions of old and poor.

The city authorities are faced with strong pressures to convert apartments into offices, hotels, shops and the like; Similarly we must preserve a range of facilities for local residents, especially

convenient shopping which is presently being eroded by specialist, luxury goods shopping for tourists.

The city also aims to reduce pressure on space by decreasing the number of jobs in this area by around 10-15% by offering attractive development sites outside of the historic core. These measure should likewise decrease the volume of traffic in this sensitive area.

### 2.2. Conservation of the Historic Core

All construction activities in the historic core must respect the principles and requirements of the conservation of monuments. The demands of conservation measures cause longer, more difficult and more expensive development processes, but nevertheless they must be carried out to the full.

The aims of modernization include not only requirements to achieve proper standards of housing and office use, but also to free the buildings of worthless later constructions and changes which detract from valuable historic forms.

The future will see establishment of a fund for targeted subsidies for conservation measures



Classical Panorama of Prague



Astronomical Clock

for historic buildings.

### 2.3. Modernisation of Technical Infrastructure

The modernisation and maintenance of infrastructure was systematically neglected during the forty years of communism and there are complex and difficult problems in this sphere as a result.

The situation is likely to become even more complicated through a number of factors: the expected influx of rich newcomers into the historic area; the requirements for the care of monuments; and - not least - by the radical changes in ownership patterns following

the restitution of property confiscated by the communist and now steadily being returned to previous owners or their descendants.

Large-scale redevelopment has already begun of the system of deep common conduit, (conduit tunnels), providing a new basic infrastructure for the historic core. District heating and energy supply systems are being strengthened.

### 2.4. Environmental Problems

Prague's historic core suffers from a range of environmental problems caused mainly by its geographic character. The configuration of the land is most unsuitable for natural ventilation and is the main factor in the high levels of air pollution caused initially by traffic and coal-fired boilers.

The city architects and planners are now researching into non-traditional means of development - for example, building over rail tracks and other infrastructure features. To help in this process, a number of design competitions have been organized, mainly with international participation.

## 3. Conclusions

Prague is very proud of the cultural riches, beauty and vitality within its historic core. This exceptional privilege brings great admiration and floods of tourists, but it also brings severe problems and onerous financial demands.

To imagine that all these demands can be met in all circumstances is outside of the realm of reality. We must always be searching for painful compromises amongst the many parties with legitimate interests on the historic core: it is often the case that the various public authorities, with their various legal duties, will have to withdraw from entrenched positions.

An alternative answer is to use methods of the communist era and override the economic imperatives of the market and the wishes and needs of owners. This was possible under communism, with its different priorities, planning and decisions-making systems and without private ownership. Today free-market economy and liberal democracy make such methods impossible to sustain and inapplicable to Prague's historic core.



Church of St. Nicolas

WORLD

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

# HISTORICAL CITIES

NO. 11: JUL. 1997



Amsterdam municipal department for the preservation of monuments and sites at Keizers-gracht canal

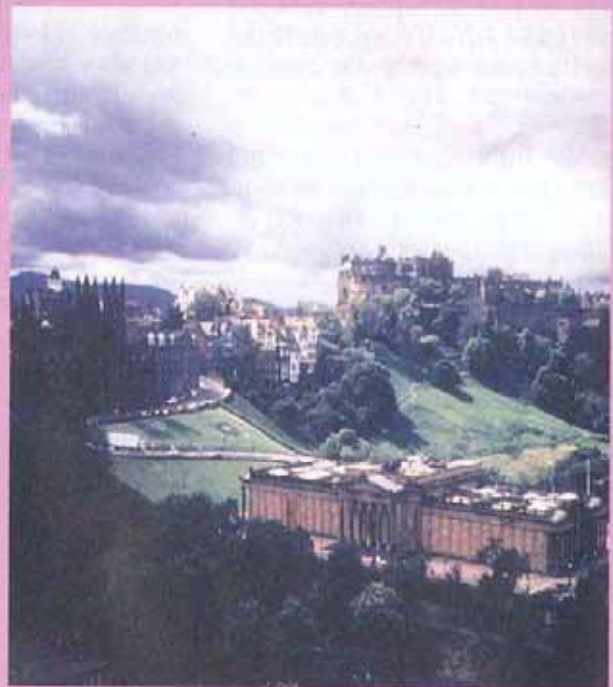
Edinburgh

Amsterdam

Report from Moscow

Meeting of Board of Directors

Interview



Edinburgh Castle and National Galleries

# Edinburgh



Edinburgh at night

As we prepare to tackle the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, each of us is constantly having to reconcile the needs of the ancient and that of the modern as the present day challenges from housing and traffic management, the expansion of tourism and a lack of public finance make it ever more difficult to preserve the heritage to which we owe so much.

We hope that you may find something of interest in this short presentation on the steps Edinburgh is taking to preserve and also to utilize its heritage to improve its economy and the quality of life of its citizens.

Edinburgh in the 1990's has a population of about 450,000 and is a beautiful, dynamic, prosperous, historic, European capital city with a growing economy.

The modern city of Edinburgh has a unique natural and physical environment. At its heart lies the Edinburgh castle, with a documented history dating back

to the 7<sup>th</sup> century, although it is thought that there may have been habitation there as long ago as 5,000 B.C.

Edinburgh was described by Scotland's famous poet and novelist, Sir Walter Scott, as "mine own Romantic town". The romance of bygone Edinburgh is still very much apparent in the city's historic heart.

To the north of Edinburgh castle and the old town, lies the new town covering an area of around four square miles of Georgian buildings - the largest example in Britain of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century town planning.

Both Edinburgh's medieval old town and Georgian new town have recently been awarded World Heritage Site status by UNESCO making the city ever more conscious of its duty to protect its heritage and environment.

The importance of preserving our historic cities is beyond question. Our heritage must not

be sacrificed for economic gain and yet economic success is vital to the future life of our cities. Therefore, we must find ways of using our heritage to compete in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, to become successful, vibrant, thriving communities where people live, work and play.

Edinburgh in recent years has achieved some success in this regard. There was a time when Edinburgh was losing its way. Where buildings were demolished they were replaced by ugly, modern designs or perhaps worse still, were replaced with nothing at all, leaving gap sites all over the city center.

New housing estates characterized by multi-story flats sprung up around the periphery of the city offering little by way of quality of life to their occupants.

However, over the last two decades, we have been experiencing a Renaissance with city center gap sites being filled by new imaginative buildings,

## WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES

designed to accommodate business and the arts.

We have embarked on a successful program of investment in the fabric of our city and are regenerating the areas around the world heritage site of our old town to complement the beauty of this medieval city.

We are revitalizing housing both in the city center and in the peripheral areas. We are refurbishing many public buildings and theaters and have built a major new financial district and international conference center.

All of this has been demanded by and is vital to an expanding local economy which owes much to the heritage of Edinburgh.

The results of our efforts have been seen in recent studies which have found that Edinburgh is currently one of the most successful, wealth creating and advantageous cities in the United Kingdom offering an outstanding environment in which to live or work.

While we are proud of our success, we can not sit back complacently expecting that in the future, success will be handed to us on a plate. Much more requires to be done and it requires to be done within the financial constraints placed upon us.

As people have more leisure time and as travel around the world becomes easier, it is essential for historic cities to develop their tourist industries.

As a beautiful, historic city famous for its international arts festival and large scale events, Edinburgh is a cultural magnet to millions of tourists who are vital to our economy, bringing considerable amounts of money

and jobs to the city.

To continue to attract such large numbers, we must ensure that the heritage they come to see is not damaged in any way. We must continue to regenerate the areas which have been allowed to deteriorate, and bring them up to a high standard. We must create new attractions and new events which will bring greater numbers of people to the city.

Projects on which we are currently working in Edinburgh include the recent creation of a new year festival which last year attracted 300,000 people onto Princes street at 12 midnight on 31 January.

While the expansion of tourism is of great importance, it can at the same time create its own problems. Over use of fragile structures can cause erosion and increased numbers in our cities can result in increased waste and pollution.

We have made transportation a key priority for the development of the city and we are currently undertaking an extensive program of work to seek to mitigate the damaging environmental effects of cars and to encourage the use of more environmentally friendly forms of transport.

By reducing the number of cars in the center of Edinburgh and making it safer, we are aiming to make it more attractive to visitors and locals.

By reducing people's reliance on the car, we hope to breathe new life into the center of the city. With the current trends for out of town shopping and living, it is important to tackle the threats of the doughnut which leaves city centers bereft of life at the end of the day.

In Edinburgh we are working hard to counteract this by regenerating the heart of the city to provide new housing and to encourage mixed use of the city.

If our cities are to be successful, they must use their assets to make them as attractive as possible to those who live and work in them as well as to tourists and investors. While we must preserve our heritage, in an increasingly competitive world, we must also enhance and find new ways of utilizing it.

If we do not, then our cities are likely to die, becoming nothing more than beautiful, historic curiosities which have outlived their economic importance.



Edinburgh from Calton Hill

# Amsterdam

Amsterdam's old city center is home to many historic buildings. Inside this former fortified city, there is an infrastructure of canals and streets which was completed at the end of seventeenth century.

It is the combination of canals, streets, bridges and historic buildings which gives the city the special character appreciated by so many visitors.

A boat trip along the Herengracht, Keizersgracht and Prinsengracht, the concentric canals surrounding the heart of the city, which dates back to the middle ages, leaves an unforgettable impression.

A special feature of all the buildings is that they have piled foundations. This is because the subsoil is peat, which has no load-bearing capacity.

Bricks were the primary building material because there is virtually no rock in this part of the country. It is this brick-based architecture that has made Amsterdam world famous.

A tour through this historic city shows the variety of facades. Amsterdam is not a city of huge palaces, but along the canals, there are many substantial buildings which in the past have served as urban palaces for Amsterdammers who made their fortunes in overseas trade.

Jacob van Campen, Philip Vingboons and Hendrik de Keyser were among the most influential seventeenth-century architects.

The historic interest of Amsterdam's architectural monuments extends beyond the city center. The city expanded in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and in so doing created an interesting legacy of architecture and urban planning.

The City of Amsterdam's Municipal Department for the Preservation of Monuments and Sites plays an important part in the conservation of this precious heritage. The department was set up by the city council more than

forty years ago. Its most important task is to advise the city council and private residents about how to protect and maintain their architectural legacy.

There are some 7000 listed buildings, a large proportion of which are residences. An important part of the department's work is the supervision of restoration activities for which a listed building permit is required.

The Dutch government provides about twenty million guilders a year in the form of grants for restoration and improvements.

The fine-meshed urban infrastructure also needs a great deal of looking after. New buildings are designed with painstaking care so that the building line, height and volume are in harmony with existing properties.

It is expected that the seventeenth century city center



Late 17th century canal houses along Herengracht canal





Ice sport at one of the famous canals of Amsterdam

will soon be designated as a protected urban area. This will have the effect of giving the whole area a protected status under the 1988 Monuments and Historic Buildings Act.

The plan to add the area to the World Heritage List reflects the international recognition of the importance of the historic city center.

An important principle behind the policy is that Amsterdam must not become a static open-air museum, where nothing is allowed.

The approach to caring for monuments and historic buildings is therefore geared to creating new opportunities for buildings and urban development structures.

In the long run the maintenance of a cycle of use and reuse is the best guarantee of the preservation of a historic city.

Such an approach also means that the Municipal Department for the Preservation of Monuments and Sites is

becoming increasingly involved in advising on major infrastructural projects.

We must study the options-contained in the old structure-which can be utilized in the development of new plans. In this way the interests of conserving old buildings can be incorporated in the decision-making process.

This approach holds out a great deal of promise for the future of a beautiful and historic city.



Impression at night of some houses in the historic center

## INRECON in Moscow, Russia



An article for World Historical Cities from the Scientific and Design Institute on Reconstruction of Historic Towns (INRECON), Moscow, Russia.

Russian Specialists: local authorities' officers, architects, town planners, conservationists are attentively and approvingly observing the activity of World Conferences of the League of Historical Cities.

It is a great satisfaction to know that the problems common for all historical cities and towns have become the subject of care for the most part of countries all over the world.

The World Conferences of Historical Cities and establishment of the League of Historical Cities are the striking proof of this fact.

The historical cities of Russia, Moscow and Sankt Petersburg were first represented at the 5th World Conference in Xian.

In Russia the outstanding architectural monuments are dispersed throughout the vast national territory in more than 400 historical cities.

Our country is experiencing now a rather complicated period in its history related to the pivotal changes in policy and economy.

In spite of this and perhaps owing to this, the problem of historic urban environment's conservation is the important subject of care both for historical cities' local authorities and for the Federal Government.

Last year the Government had resolved to establish

the State Program on Rehabilitation and Restoration of Historic Towns of Russia. Such a revival program had been initiated by our Institute on Reconstruction of Historic Towns (INRECON) and approved by the Government of Russian Federation.

Now the program is beginning to be implemented. It has to unite the means from different sources - inner and outer, national and international. The program proposes the consentient solving of a whole range of historical towns' problems.

The Program created some economic and organizational stimuli for the non governmental bodies, private and public enterprises, separate developers and renovators to direct their investments and forces on conservation and sustainable development of unique urban areas and sites.

On the base of this national Program our Institute is making and up to now has made more than 10 special revival programs for separate historical towns in which we take into consideration their individual singularities of history.

Each such Program is supposed to be the plan of actions for the local municipal authority. In order to implement these programs it is urgently needed to hold international contacts, exchange information both on successes and failures, and get the friendly help.

The League of Historical Cities and the world Conference of Historical Cities have a large role to play in setting the aims and quantifying achievements in this field. We believe this generous and highly useful movement would continue with success.

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The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

# HISTORICAL CITIES

NO. 12: DEC. 1997



Each year, Quebec City designs new squares reserved for pedestrians, by recovering space taken directly from the roadway.

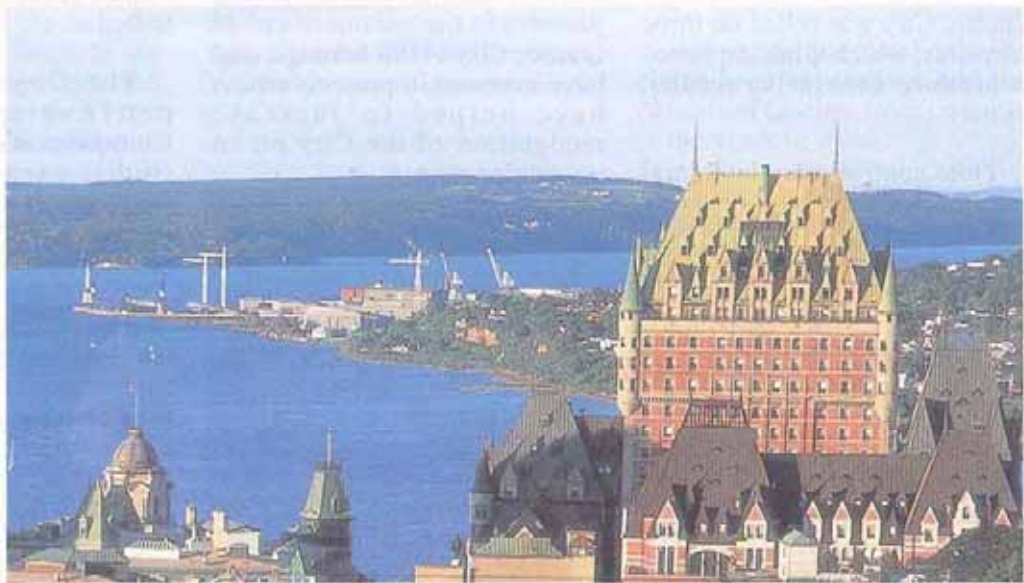
Quebec

Barcelona

Cracow's highlights

Information from Secretariat of the League

Interview(Cracow)



Quebec City and Saint Lawrence River

# Quebec

The management and enhancement of built heritage



Set on a promontory overlooking the St. Lawrence River, Quebec City has inherited an interesting and varied heritage over the last four centuries.

Quebec city was founded in 1608 on an exceptional site overlooking the St. Lawrence River. Concerned for several decades with preserving its heritage, the city was registered as a world heritage by UNESCO in 1987.

To conserve its built heritage, Quebec City was relied on three measures, which it has exploited to produce conclusive results, namely:

1) the control of architectural work on buildings:

2) the introduction of programs providing technical and financial assistance to support the renovation and restoration of historic buildings:

3) the creation of a network of public places realized by means of large scale public works.

Before elaborating further on the measures used for the enhancement of this architectural heritage, it is important to point out that these improvements were

made possible due to an agreement reached between two levels of government, namely the City of Quebec and the Province of Quebec, in the early 1980s.

Since that time, Quebec City and the provincial government, through its Ministry of Culture and Communications have been partners in the enhancement of Quebec City's built heritage, and have invested in projects which have helped to increase recognition of the City on an international scale.

#### The architectural control

Since 1928, Quebec City has controlled the architectural quality of work on the buildings. In fact, the Quebec Urban Planning and Conservation Commission, a unique organization of its kind in Canada, was set up at that time with the mandate of preserving the particular architectural character of Quebec City.

It can withhold its approval for any permit request for

construction, repairs or demolition on the grounds of architectural appearance and symmetry of building designs.

All permit requests must first receive the Commission's endorsement with regards to architectural quality, before a construction permit can be issued.

The City puts a team of professionals at the Commission's disposal, which studies each of requests and presents its recommendations based on the analysis of the architectural characteristics.

The recommendations made by the Commission are much stricter and more elaborate within the historic district of the fortified city. In this sector, the recommendations are based on criteria defined in the Guide for the Conservation and Enhancement of the architecture of old Quebec, produced in 1982.

Although such rigorous architectural control creates some

dissatisfaction, there have been undeniable benefits. First, the urban landscape of the district has been greatly enhanced in the last 15 years. Continuity in the work done is clearly visible and several buildings have undergone a veritable rebirth.

### The financial support

The rigorous application of the Guide for the Conservation and Enhancement of the Architecture of Old Quebec creates some problems, primarily a substantial increase in maintenance and renovation costs for buildings inside the historic district.

The repairing according to the old techniques are expensive, often twice or even three times the cost of contemporary substitutes.

It soon became clear that the objective of conserving the traditional elements of the buildings in the historic district constituted a burden, difficult to impose on individual building owners if no assistance was provided.

Therefore, from the time the guide came into effect, in the early 1980s, technical and financial assistance programs have been developed to support the efforts of private owners in the historic district.

Every year since 1980, an average of some \$700,000 Canadian dollars has been distributed to the owners of buildings in the district to help them improve their property in accordance with the legislated criteria.

As for technical assistance, an architect specialized in the treatment of heritage buildings, employed by the City, is at the disposal of district owners.

The government's financial contribution has permitted the realization of works of a quality which would have been difficult for the city to achieve if it had been solely dependent on its own revenue sources.

Thus, since 1980, all of the overhead wires from the electrical, telephone have been completely buried inside the district. The sector's lighting has also been completely redone and appropriate lamps have been installed.

Historic squares such as Place Royale, Place d'Armes were completely redesigned. In some sectors, old paving stone were recovered.

### Conclusion

The results of these combined efforts have certainly been fruitful. In 15 years, Quebec has raised itself to the rank of a world heritage city and the tourist industry is becoming one of the main economic activities of the region.

The populations wanted Old Quebec to continue to be a lively and inhabited neighborhood rather than a lifeless museum, vacated in the off-season.

After these years, and despite the difficult choices that the City had to make in applying its bylaw, the wishes of the population have been realized.

Old Quebec is now in great demand as a place to live,

Quebec City must take up several challenges in the next few years. Several questions are currently under discussion.

Should the architectural requirements in the district continue to be as strict? The architects and building professionals working in the city disapprove of these requirements, claiming they curb their creativity.

How can the city continue to finance assistance programs in the context of the reduction of the government's financial resources?

Religious heritage is a highly treasured feature of the Quebec landscape. With the abandonment of religion, which presently characterizes Quebec society, what will happen to all of these monuments?

These are questions that the elected representatives and the citizens of Quebec must consider in the years to come.



For several decades, Quebec City has exercised control over work done on all of the buildings on its territory, which partially explains the high quality of its built environment.

# Barcelona

The action to safeguard the architectural heritage of the city.

The city of Barcelona was founded in the first century with the settlement of a Roman colony.

Thus, we are considering a city with virtually two thousand years of history.

From the standpoint of the architectural heritage, we have been fortunate, for despite the many transformations, numerous examples of the various styles still survive today.

In the mid-nineteenth century, a radical change occurred in the city.

The military authorities permitted the demolition of the medieval walls within which the city had been growing increasingly overcrowded since the fourteenth century.

The city virtually exploded, covering almost all of the surrounding terrain with a highly homogeneous grid layout.

From the nineteenth century, the practitioners of modernism, one of Barcelona's original architectural styles, produced some of the buildings for which the city is famous all over the world.

This fact is clearly reflected in the Eixample; many buildings are unexceptional but among them are outstanding constructions that were essential for European architecture at the turn of the century.

Buildings like the Casa Milá and the Casas Batlló, Amatller and Lleó Morera are fundamental to an understanding of the standard achieved in modernist housing, but their value is more finely appreciated when they are viewed together with the other buildings along the Passeig de Gràcia and in the Eixample as a whole.

The existence of a government with progressive ideas gave impetus to the construction of public buildings based on the models of this new architecture.

The results of the Civil War caused a halt in the development of Barcelona architecture, but from the fifties on, the buildings constructed were once again linked with the local architectural tradition and with the modern movement.

In 1962 the City Council passed the Catalog of Buildings and Monuments of Historical, Archaeological and Stylistic, or Traditional Interest.

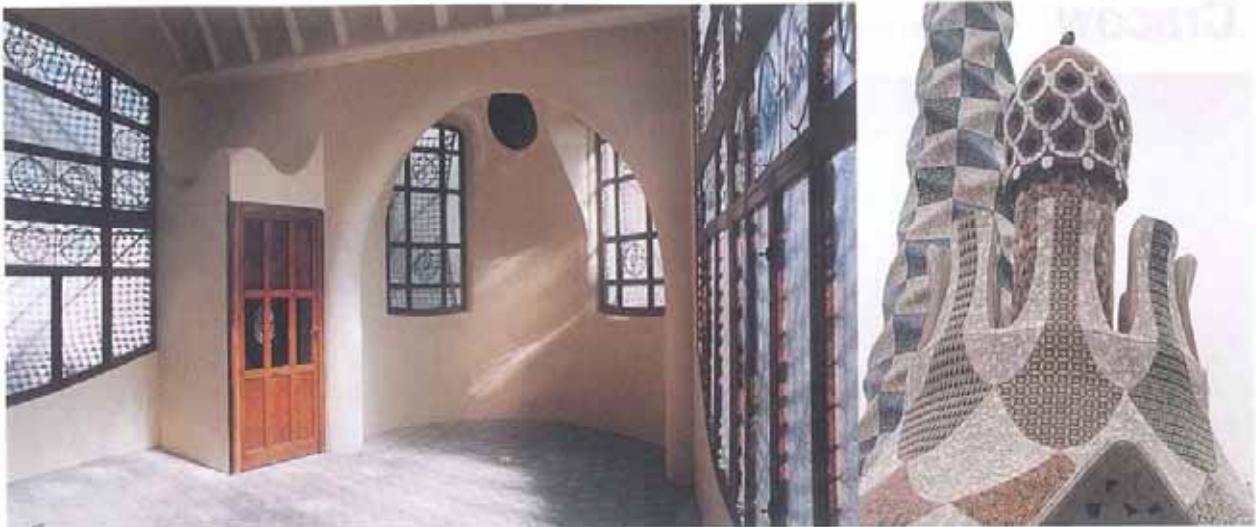
This first Catalog was replaced by a second, passed in 1979, which is still in force.

Both of these Catalogues, drafted during periods of rapid growth in the city when exceptional buildings had been torn down, reflect the intention to preserve the most significant values of Barcelona's historical architecture principally in the districts of the Old City and the Eixample.

As for the rest of the city, the towns incorporated in 1897, the



The Gothic Hall of the municipality of Barcelona, built in the 14th century and enlarged in the 19th century. The decoration is of Neo-Gothic inspiration, and was done in 1925, although part of it was dismantled ten years later. The Hall has been recently restored, and many of the elements that were removed in the 1930's have been put back in place after a careful restoration



Antoni Gaudi

Exterior view of the pavillion recently restored, the roof is covered with pieces of broken tiles glued to the surface with mortar. Gaudi obtained very special results with this technique, by playing with the color and size of the pieces. Interior view of the building, looking to the entrance.

code basically covers farmhouses and old churches; the architecture reflecting the most traditional attributes of these neighborhoods.

Chronologically speaking, the preservation code includes modernism and several of works representing rationalist architecture.

The Catalog in force since 1979 is accompanied by a building code that accentuates the preventive and highly restricted nature of any alterations.

The City Council published a book with descriptive records of the buildings, photographs, original plans, etc, in order to disseminate the content of the Catalog among the citizens in 1987.

On the one hand, the new catalog lists the structures and elements that give each district of the city its own unique character, while on the other hand, it provides guidelines for alterations in each of these buildings.

The governing theory is that,

in order to ensure the permanence of a building, alterations must be permitted that contribute new values, that enable new uses, and that give the edifice renewed life, while retaining its fundamental values.

The same team that is preparing the Revised Catalog is also responsible for the administrative work of tracking the projects that individuals undertake in cataloged buildings and groups.

Their task commences with consultations with the owners and the professionals who execute the projects.

Once agreement is reached on the scope of the project and the appropriate permit is granted, the works are tracked.

The Barcelona City has an Office of Action on the Artistic Heritage, Buildings of different periods and styles are maintained by city employees specializing in the architectural heritage.



The Gothic Hall of the municipality of Barcelona

## Cracow the next host city of the conference - European City of Culture



Zamek Krolewski na Wawelu (Wawelu castle)

Scores of tourists from all over the world come to Cracow, wishing to get to know the town of the Pope and Nicolaus Copernicus, the ancient capital of the Poland, the town that conceals priceless art treasures within its walls. This unusual and exceptional wealth was honoured in 1978 when the UNESCO included Krakow in the list of the world's cultural heritage, which bears witness to the high cultural standard of this city.



Kracow is a city with a turbulent history that represents the Polish national identity. In the year 1000 a bishopric was founded in Krakow. For this reason several Romanesque buildings were erected on Wawel Hill, which from the mid-eleventh century on was to become the seat of government for many centuries.

The Cathedral on the Wawel Hill is one of the most venerable churches in Poland. It is a memorial of artistic and patriotic character and has been a monument of the history of the Polish people.

Since 1978 the chapter houses in front of the Cathedral have housed the Cathedral Museum.

On the south side of the Cathedral Museum you can find the Royal Palace, a centre of cultural, political and artistic life. The original building on the site was a Romanesque palace, which was replaced in the 14th century by a Gothic castle and finally, in the 16th century, by the current Renaissance palace.

One of the most valuable collections of classical and medieval art as well as paintings by Italian, Flemish and Dutch masters, for example Leonardo da Vinci's "Lady with Ermine" you can find at the Czartoryskich Museum which was founded at the beginning of the nineteenth century.

Kracow's main church - Church of Our Lady is a monument to the honour and fame of the citizens of Krakow. The beginnings of this church date back to the first years of the thirteenth century.

Behind the altar you can see the priceless medieval stained-glass windows dating from the end of the fourteenth century.

We can encounter modernity and well deserved heritage in Cracow.



Stwacki Theater



WORLD

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

# HISTORICAL CITIES

NO. 13: APR. 1998



Catedral in Santiago de Compostela

Santiago de Compostela

Boston

6th World Conference in Cracow

New member cities

Interview      Zurich



Inside view of the Cathedral in Santiago de Compostela

# Santiago de compostela



Landscape of Santiago de Compostela

## Historical Quarter Restoration

Santiago de Compostela, a World Heritage City since 1985, is situated in the northeast of the Iberian Peninsula, capital of the Autonomous Community of Galicia and a city with a five hundred year old university.

Santiago has experienced an important process of development and urban growth in the last fifteen years, thereby endeavoring to respond satisfactorily to one of the key problems in the modernization process of a historical city.

It is how to resolve such a transformation maintaining and promoting the historical quarter as a symbolic reference and as an articulatory element of the new city, while conserving its historical values.

First of all, the size of the city has enabled the development of urban transformation policies and municipal policies, which, in the case of larger cities, would have decreased or, worst of all, neutralized the positive results of such policies.

In fact, the city's real population

reached almost 130,000 inhabitants in 1997, having increased from the 71,000 inhabitants it had in 1970.

Secondly, the existence of the General Urban Regulation Plan since 1990, has enabled the resolving of problems arising from the process of growth.

In this regard, the decentralizing of different supra-municipal functions and the creation of important infrastructures and facilities has enabled us to approach the process of comprehensive restoration of the historical quarter.

It is with a set of municipal and inter-administrative policies, implemented simultaneously with the drawing up, debating and approval of a Special Protection and Restoration Plan for the City's Historical Quarter, which has the following objectives:

First of all, maintaining and restoring residential usage as the priority usage.

The historical quarter has been a residential area, with a complete variety of urban activities and functions, making up a city.

Despite the process of growth of the city as a whole, with its urban expansion areas, the historical quarter has continued to conserve a high degree of occupancy in its buildings.

The availability of economic resources has enabled, by means of a suitable policy of home restoration, the promoting of residential usage, so that the degree of occupancy of the historical quarter buildings is still greater than that of the municipality as a whole.

This intervention-restoration process was initiated with specific policies dealing with public spaces and the exterior image of the city as a whole, and led to programs aimed at restoring homes and business premises, which account for most of the historical quarter's built-up area.

Thus, more than 1,200 homes and around about 300 business premises (making up more than 20% of the historical quarter's residential area) are presently being restored.

At the same time, restoration projects have been undertaken in a good number of the historical buildings (churches, convents,

## WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES

palaces, etc.) making up the large complex of buildings that, along with the civil housing, form the historical quarter of Santiago.

Secondly, the consolidation of the central functions and economic activities, while implementing a policy of localization of important uses with a decentralizing objective.

In harmony with the General Urban Regulation Plan's design, the Special Plan for the Historical Quarter aims at consolidating the activities carried out in the historical quarter which guarantee the preservation of its central functions.

In those fields of urban activities for which its physical characteristics make the historical quarter an ideal setting and which are compatible with its residential nature, small-scale commercial usage and services are being promoted by improving traffic and pedestrian accessibility.

Small scale, high-quality commercial usage and services are being stimulated.

University usage is being optimized, in both its academic and residential aspects.

Historical buildings of great architectural interest are being restored

for institutional uses with a high symbolic and representational value and, finally, the restoration of buildings for carrying out cultural activities (theaters, cinemas, exhibition halls, museums, etc.) is being promoted.

Thirdly, in the project of urban growth and expansion, the historical quarter is being maintained and promoted as an important pedestrian infrastructure linking different sectors of the city.

The dimension of the city and the compactness of its surface area allow for intense pedestrian usage, by means of a continuous urban growth, dense and compact, which has produced a city with a pedestrian-scale surface area.

Finally, the protection of built-up heritage and the urban and environmental setting, is the final objective that forms the fourth theme on which the protection and restoration of the historical quarter is based.

Among the different appraisals set forth by the citizens residing in the city, or those visiting it, the perception of urban complex is what stands out most clearly as the city's most positive value, i.e.

the relationship between historical buildings and civil housing, the complex of public spaces,

squares, streets, etc., and its relationship with the residential area; and the image of the city in its materiality: granite, wood and wrought iron, as materials forming the exterior and interior of the built-up complex.

Maintaining, protecting and restoring this heritage is being achieved by means of a suitable hierarchy in its classification (from monuments to the humblest low-rise houses).

The work undertaken in recent years has resulted in a wealth of relationships (with the participation of the citizens in restoration projects), of knowledge, techniques and professions that will enable us to continue implementing our policies.

This enables the city to cope with its growth and urban expansion and, at the same time, cater for the ever-increasing number of tourists, pilgrims and visitors that come to the city and that will come especially in the years 1999, a Compostela Holy Year, and 2000, in which Santiago will be one of the nine European Cultural Capitals.



Santiago de Compostela



## Boston

FOUR HOTEL PROJECTS are under construction, three others will soon be receiving preliminary approvals by the City and four more are in the planning stage according to Jim Lydon, director of Economic Development for the Boston Redevelopment Authority.

The prominent Custom House, the second smallest of the projects at 85 rooms, stands out because the Marriott Corporation is selling suites in the building.

When the federal government vacated the Customs House on the eve of the 1980s real estate recession, the City purchased the building for \$11 million to preserve a key asset.

The General Services Administration, in an unusual move, financed the sale, and later allowed the City to renegotiate terms and defer payments when the City was unable to sell the building.

A commercial office tower and a luxury boutique hotel with residences were the two prime proposals that failed to happen

before Marriott purchased the building for \$25 million planning to develop time-share condominiums.

Cautiously optimistic, Marriott representatives report that they are ahead of schedule.

In addition to local buyers, Boston colleges' alumni and residents of Connecticut and Rhode Island are leading the way, according to Joseph Russo and Jay DiGiulio.

Marriott expects 70 percent of the buyers to use the units themselves; 30 percent will lease or trade Boston nights for other domestic and international locations through the company's popular exchange program.

The 80 units range from 159 to 278 square feet.

As specified in the purchase agreement, the tower's observation deck will be open to the public for regular tours.

The rotunda will also be open to the public.

In the hope of creating a maritime-theme museum in the space, Marriott is discussing museum loans and management with the Peabody Essex Museum.

Major exterior work to the Boston landmark includes repointing, inserting new windows in existing frames, cleaning and relighting.

Interior preservation efforts include cleaning and restoring wainscotting and other decorative elements in the rotunda and in the former counting room which will serve as the owners' lounge.

The street between the Board of Trade Building and the Custom House will be narrowed; its service will be limited to vehicles going to and from the two buildings.

This India Street entrance, the building's front door for its first 85 years, will again serve as the building's primary entrance.

The harbor side of the structure, McKinley Square, will also receive extensive landscape treatment.



#### Historic Landmark

The Custom House is a distinctive landmark of, and a significant link to, Boston's long and prosperous association with the sea.

In its economic maritime heyday, the port of Boston collected one-fifth of the country's total custom revenue.

The federal government purchased the site, then located on the harbor's edge, in 1835.

The design competition for the building attracted notable architects like Alexander Parris, architect of Quincy Market.

Ammi Burnham Young, the architect selected, used local Quincy granite for the Greek Revival style building.

The design was a popular choice for public buildings of the day, signifying the new democracy.

The Custom House was filled to capacity by the turn of the century, and Boston architects Peabody and Stearns designed the 16-story tower addition which was completed in 1915.

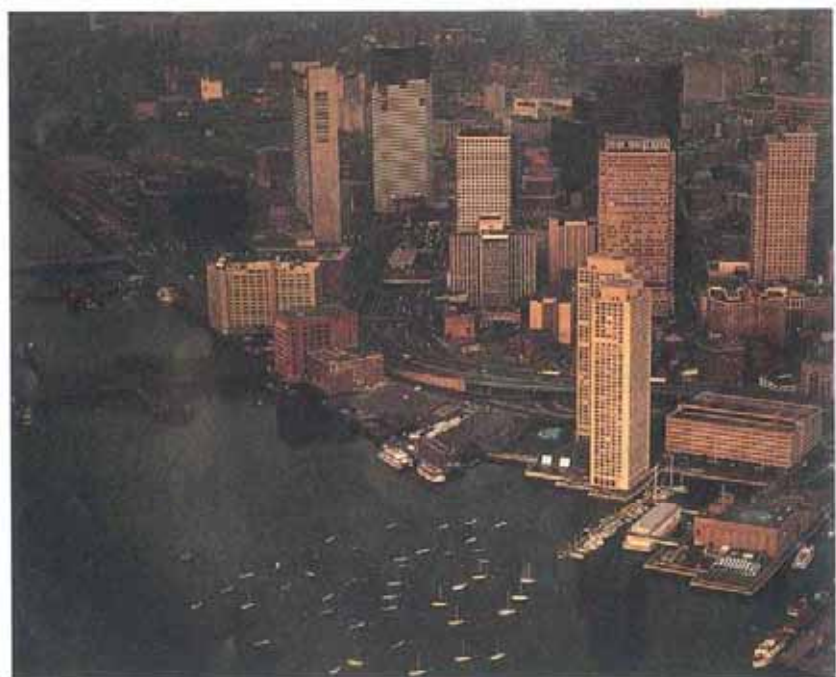
The addition was exempted by its

federal property status from local zoning ordinances and is considered Boston's first skyscraper, exceeding the 125-foot zoning height restrictions by 375 feet.

Sara Wermiel, historian of building technology, notes that the early Custom House and the tower each represent the best fireproof construction practice of their day.

"The remnants of Young's building is especially significant as one of the few examples of fireproof masonry construction in New England."

The tower is a steel frame curtain wall skyscraper.



PREVIOUS  
CONFERENCE

*The 4th Conference*  
in Kyoto, Japan  
April 25th to 28th, 1994

theme : In quest of the Wisdom of Historical Cities  
number of participating cities : 45 ( 40 countries )



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The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

# HISTORICAL CITIES

NO. 14: SUMMER.1998



View of the botanical garden area with a small church in IASI, ROMANIA

*Cologne*

*Iasi*

*The 6th Conference in Cracow*

*Interview*



The Cathedral in Cologne

# Cologne

*Protection and Preservation of Historical Monuments in Cologne*



Landscape of Cologne

The city of Cologne's Historical Monuments Preservation Authority was established in 1912.

It is integrated in the City Council, and has been a part of the Department of Culture since 1950.

At present, the authority's catalogue includes around 9,200 monuments from all periods of the city's 2000 year history.

Cologne was the first major city in Germany to classify buildings as historical monuments and to commit itself to their protection and preservation.

The protection and preservation of historical monuments is also organised on a federal basis.

As a result, each of the nation's sixteen federal states has passed its own Historical Monuments Preservation Act, which forms the basis for all preservation activities in each state.

The legislation in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia of which Cologne is the largest city, has the unique feature that the main responsibility for protection and preservation of historical monuments lies with the local governments.

On the state level, there are also two special authorities, one each for

the state's two major areas, the Rhineland and Westphalia, which provide support in a scientific advisory function for the many local monuments authorities.

The City Curator's Office in Cologne has now 17 staff members (architects, art historians and administrators).

The work is founded on the state's historical Monuments Protection Act from 1980.

Today, approximately 8,100 from the total of 9,200 monuments given in the catalogue are legally classified as historical monuments.

But legal regulations on their own are not sufficient enough to achieve effective preservation and protection of historical monuments.

*It is necessary to conduct effective campaigns to educate, inform and win the sympathy and support of the owners.*

The attitude of the media is also very positive. They have actually supported the objectives of historical monument protection and preservation for many years now.

All historic structures can be worthy of protection as historic

monuments; the only requirement is that they should constitute a legacy of the history and cultural activities of mankind, in the broadest sense.

This includes a large number of buildings, parks, cemeteries, transport network structures, residential buildings of all types and administrative buildings, civil engineering works or even underground structures.

The first well known medieval civic building is the Historic City Hall, parts of which have been painstakingly restored since World War II: The Gothic Hansa Hall tract, the Gothic City Hall Tower, and the Renaissance arcade, which survived the war almost intact.

These sections are integrated in a new structure which was built between 1965 and 1972.

In 1995 the City Hall Tower was given a new set of sculptures depicting 124 figures from the city's history.

Following the post-war restoration, this has now given the Gothic building back its original three-dimensional artistic look, which was painfully lacking during the past 30 years.

The sculptures, at a total cost of 2.5 million marks, have all been financed by private donations.



## WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES

The remains of the formerly imposing city fortifications with their gates and towers are other examples of Cologne's urban monuments.

One of the most noteworthy is the Bayen Tower, which was finally restored in 1994 from war damage, and now houses a very modern archive of feminist research.

Among the most important monuments in the city centre are the great church buildings.

The cathedral's origins reach back to the 4th century.

Work began in 1248 and continued sporadically until 1560.

In that year construction works were finally halted, in keeping with the rise of the Reformation and the beginnings of the modern age.

Extensive parts of the cathedral were already well advanced enough to be used for church services, but the motivation for its final completion did not appear until the 19th century with its interest in history and its belief in nationalism.

The finished building was then inaugurated in 1880.

In the closing years of the 19th century, the cathedral's two soaring 156m spires became models for America's new high-rise buildings.

Alongside the Gothic cathedral, Cologne has many other medieval churches which are protected as historical monuments.

Most of them are built on the

foundations of Roman predecessors, and the main features of their architecture date from the period between the 10th and the 15th centuries.

They include no fewer than twelve churches dating from the centuries of the so-called Romanesque period.

In addition to these church buildings, Cologne has numerous well designed churches built in the first 30 years after the World War II, proving the creativity of the architects and the high level of supportive tolerance shown by the church authorities in those decades.

Apart from the churches, Cologne's cityscape also includes predominant governmental and commercial structures that are included in the catalogue of historical monuments, like department stores, malls, a multi-storey car park or a factory building.

An example for an industrial monument and a former public utility is the big water tower designed and built by a British engineer between 1868 and 1872.

Until World War II the massive stone base supported a large water reservoir made of cast iron plates.

Between 1987 and 1989 the structure was converted into a luxury hotel.

Finally there are the financial aspects of the protection and

preservation of historical monuments as well.

The majority of the monuments are privately owned.

This means that the primary responsibility for the maintenance and preservation of the monuments lies with their owners.

The owners receive state support for the work directly related to maintenance of the characteristic features of the structures that form the basis of their classification as historical monuments.

This support is provided in the form of direct subsidies and tax relief.

Buildings in public ownership and the big church buildings are supported with direct funding.

The building maintenance of the cathedral, which costs around twelve million marks per year, is financed by a special society that has existed for over 150 years, from a cathedral lottery and from large subsidies by the state of North Rhine-Westphalia.

At present, the Curator's Bureau distributes around 600,000 marks in direct subsidies per year.

Half of this money comes from the budget of the state of North Rhine Westphalia, the other half from that of the city of Cologne.

*For more information:*

*City of Cologne, Department for Foreign Affairs and Sister Cities*

*Tel: 49-221-221-6032*

*Fax: 49-221-221-3384*



Panorama of Cologne and night view of the Cathedral

## Iasi *To the future, preserving the past*



Panorama of Iasi

Iasi is considered a museum city in Romania with a patrimony comprising archaeological sites, memorial houses, many historical and architectural monuments, precious vestiges of Romanian culture and civilization.

Iasi is also the most important economic, political and cultural center of Moldavia region and one of the oldest cities in Romania.

Situated in the Northeast of Romania, near the border with Moldavia Republic and 360 km Northeast of Bucharest, it is the crossing point of the most important commercial roads that are passing through Moldavia from Poland, Hungary, Russia and Turkey.

Archaeological investigations attest the presence of human communities on the present territory of the city and around it as far back as the prehistoric age.

The beginnings of urban life in Iasi are to be found in the second half of the 14th century.

Iasi is one of the most important cities in Romania with a population of 340,000 citizens, developing industrial areas and a national center

for education.

Big projects like highways, International Trade Center, Free Economical Zone, and an International Airport will put a new light in Iasi.

The European regional development gives Iasi the possibility to be the capital of the Northeast Region of Romania.

In spite of the modern revolution of Romanian society, its pressing economic needs and the negative effect of the communist period, the old town center preserves vestiges of the former Iasi.

The Neo-Gothic Palace of Culture is one of Iasi's most recognizable and charming buildings. It was built between 1906 and 1925.

At the beginning, it was the Palace of Justice; it became Palace of Culture from 1954.

This palace has exterior decorations, interior decorations, and stained glass windows.

The palace lodges museums such as the Art Museum, Ethnographical Museum, Technical Museum and History Museum. The building is indeed a prime element of Iasi's skyline, and its image as a city of

culture.

Today, the Palace also hosts the local administration departments and the City Council. This is one example of how an old building is used practically.

Mindful of the need to plan for Iasi's future development, the local administration, in collaboration with a professional company, began the creation of a General Town Plan in 1994. It was the first time a Romanian city began a project of this kind.

The evaluation and development propositions are done for the period 1998-2025, with the possibility of a future extension.

The main objective of the Iasi City's development is "to fulfill the desire to be a city of science and culture", thus joining the European values system.

Studies demand protection for 425 monuments and 315 historical buildings. The future development law of the City designates protection zones in the city.

Studies also mention the necessity



The Iasi City Hall

to designate the areas with temporary or definite interdiction for construction, considering the future public utility projects and the necessity to protect historical areas.

Studies consider that it is most beneficial to develop the City in the future as an agglomeration of towns, consolidating its identity by the protection and the utilization of the City's patrimony and values.

At the beginning of the next century, Iasi Town Agglomeration will have over 600,000 citizens and it will be a regional, commercial and financial center, as well as a research and educational center.

All propositions of this plan are now open for public analysis until the beginning of September.

During the autumn session of the city council, the city hall will propose the vote of the General Town Plan.

After its acceptance by the local administration, before the end of this year, the Plan will receive the approval of the Romanian Government, and will become the base of the city's development for the future.

The institutions specialized in the protection, conservation, the restoration collaborate with the Historical Monuments Commission and the museums commission. Members of these commissions are

specialists recognized in the country and abroad, who are not civil servants.

At the local level, the protection of buildings recognized as historical and architectural monuments is assured by the county headquarter for Culture, the county office for the national and cultural patrimony, the county council and the local administration.

The ministry of culture's institutions and the local institutions work in accordance with the law of the protection for national and cultural patrimony (1995), the law

of the construction authorization (1990), and the Law of the construction quality (1995).

Thus, we are making great efforts to conserve historic monuments in collaboration with many special institutions considering the needs for modernization and development.

*For more information:  
Iasi City Hall, Romania  
tel: 40-32-211215  
fax: 40-32-211200*



The Golia Monastery in Iasi

## *The 6th World Conference of Historical Cities*

The 6th World Conference of Historical Cities was held in Cracow, Republic of Poland from May 25th to 28th 1998. We had a lively discussion under the main theme of "heritage and development in historical cities" and the Cracow Declaration was adopted unanimously at the end of this conference.

The General Assembly and the meeting of Board of Directors were held on this occasion. The decided items are follows;

### *Admission of a new member*

The application for the membership by the City of Hague, the Netherlands was approved making the total number of member cities 59 (48 countries).

### *Enactment of the symbol mark*

The symbol mark for the League was selected from the out of the 1,028 works at the first judgment on April 21. This symbol mark was designed by Mr. Nobuyoshi Azuma (Kitakyusyu city, Japan). The brief explanation on the design by Mr. Azuma is as follows; "A house is the beginning of the foundation of a city. I put a house as a cap which represents historical cities on top of the globe which is the world. This mark symbolizes the realization of world peace. I made it as simple as possible so that many people can identify with this mark."



### *Host city of the 8th Conference of Historical Cities in 2002*

4 member cities, Isfahan (Islamic Republic of Iran), Istanbul (Republic of Turkey), Konya (Republic of Turkey), and Rio de Janeiro (Federative Republic of Brazil) expressed their intention to host the 8th Conference in 2002. It was decided by majority that the city of Rio de Janeiro would be the host city of the 8th Conference. (The 7th Conference will be held in Montpellier in France in 2000.)



WORLD

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin



# HISTORICAL CITIES

NO. 15: JAN. 1999



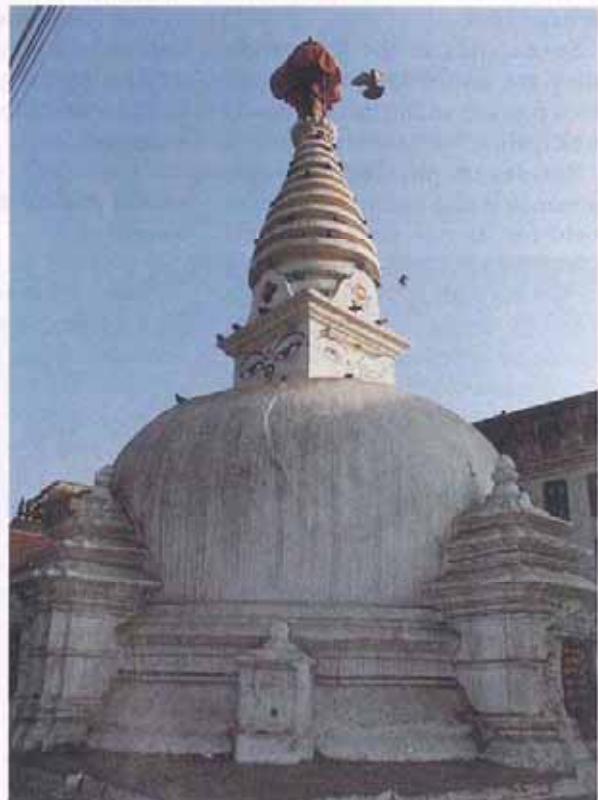
Wat Phre Singh temple in Chiang Mai

*Katmandu*

*Chiang Mai*

*The World Heritage Committee*

*Interview*



The Maha Bouddha Mandir Temple in KATMANDU

## Katmandu *Heritage conservation strategy*



One example of renovation  
 Left: Thkan Baha temple before renovation  
 Right: after renovation

### *Background*

Katmandu is proud to be listed on the UNESCO list of World Heritage sites.

Seven sites in the Katmandu valley are inscribed in the list, of which four are within the Katmandu municipality.

Besides its physical heritage, Katmandu is also known all over the world for its rich living cultural heritage.

However, despite substantive efforts by the government, people and the international community, there is a general decline in the state of our heritage today.

The challenge for Katmandu is to conserve our heritage as a living system for the future generations as we move forward into the 21st century.

The threats to our heritage have come from many sources such as an ignorance about the importance of heritage and a lack of economic space over competing ends.

What is needed is innovation in tapping existing investments in the education system, tourism, regulatory frameworks, local

financial resources, as well as the preservation of what remains of the ancient concepts of land as trust or the Guthi.

The Katmandu Metropolitan city has the following programs as part of its strategy to conserve Katmandu's globally recognized heritage.

### *Education and information campaign*

The traditional values that kept the heritage of Katmandu are slowly disappearing because of pressing economic needs to switch professions.

An artist finds that his son now has a video shop and is unable to pass on knowledge and skills.

A widely scoped awareness campaign is needed to instill pride in traditional skills.

These professions also need to pay well to keep them attractive. Tourism has been a big help towards this end.

### *Economic Incentives Program*

Keeping the built and living heritage of Katmandu is going to

require resources and incentives for the people who maintain it.

It is also time consuming and requires much study and education.

Till recent times, land and the grains grown on the land provided the incentive, but with a decline in the agricultural system, a more direct economic intervention may be needed till the Guthis can be revived.

Entrance fees and sale of handicrafts to tourists can be one source of revenue.

Tax rebates and subsidized materials have also been suggested as possible incentives.

### *Legal and regulatory disincentives*

Encroachment, theft, and failure to comply with or enforce building codes requires effective implementation of regulatory disincentives.

Effective vigilance by local people will also be critical.

### *Sponsor program*

There are numerous restoration and repair works that can be carried out with small financial resources

## WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES

from individual contributions.

Schools, offices and clubs can be mobilized to raise funds to sponsor such activities.

The strategy is to prepare a list of schemes that can be locally sponsored.

### *Heritage Revolving Fund*

There are numerous privately owned heritage sites that need repair badly.

The idea behind creating a revolving heritage fund is to purchase such property, restore it and sell it for a margin to cover the overhead expenses.

The fund may also provide loans at low interest for individuals who wish to invest in heritage conservation.

### *Research and development*

There are new ways, techniques and skills needed to keep our heritage intact.

In the Nepali context, cost reduction techniques are important.

Keeping the weeds and pests at bay, preventing corrosion, restoring water systems, repainting etc, will require some research and development of new techniques.

The municipality will work with leading research and development agencies to achieve the above goals.

### *Pollution Control*

As many of the heritage sites are in the core city areas, vehicle

pollution and waste-disposal are serious problems.

Besides the short term impact on esthetics, these have long-term impacts on decay and corrosion of heritage sites.

The municipality is committed to keeping monumental zones clean and also limiting access, if not totally banning polluting vehicles' entry into these zones.

*For further information,  
Mayor's office, Katmandu, Metropolitan  
City  
Kalimati, Katmandu  
phone 977-1-277574  
Fax 977-1-277576*

Katmandu Metropolitan City has the following goals and guiding principles as its heritage conservation and tourism development strategy:

#### **GOALS:**

To contribute to the conservation of Katmandu's built and living heritage.

To make tourism an incentive for conservation and maximize tourist stay

#### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES:**

Authenticity  
Instill pride and ownership of Katmandu's built and living heritage  
Maximize local participation  
Education and Awareness Programme  
Financial incentives  
Research and Development Programme  
Encourage "responsible tourists"  
Pollution control



left: Hanuman Dhoka - former Palace  
above : Chhushya Bahal temple under renovation

# Chiang Mai

*preservation policy of Chiang Mai Historical City*



Wat Phra That Doi Suthep temple (left) and Wat Suan Dok temple (right)

## *Historical Background*

Chiang Mai is the second most important city in Thailand.

Established by King Mungrai in 1296 A.D., the city was meant to be the capital of his Lanna Kingdom.

The city is situated in the Chiang Mai- Lamphun valley, having the Tanontongchai mountain range along the western side, and the Pipunnum mountain range along the eastern side of the city.

The old Chiang Mai city was built in an almost square shape, approximately 1.8 km x 2.0 km.

Brick city wall and the city moat mark the old city boundary.

Within the old city, there are many temples of different types of architecture depending on the period they were built.

The Lanna Kingdom prospered for 229 years, until its defeat at the hands of the Burmese.

Two hundred years of Burmese occupation exerted much influences on local people's way of living and the architectural style of the temples in Chiang Mai which can be seen until present.

Thereafter, Chiang Mai became a colony of the Thai Kingdom.

Gradually, Chiang Mai became part of Thailand and now it is one of the most important cities and provinces of the Thai Kingdom.

## *Preservation Policy for Chiang Mai City*

Since Chang Mai was first established as an independent state, architectural style of this city is different from other parts of the country.

Moreover, the old city wall and the city moat of Chiang Mai make the city one of the most outstanding historical sites in Thailand.

As a result, the area within the old city wall was designated as preservation area.

The central office of the Department of Town and Country Planning is in charge of this Chiang Mai Comprehensive Plan.

The regulations of preservation area limit a building height to 16 meters and state that buildings must either have gable roof or traditional decoration on them.

In order to support the preservation policy, the government gives restoration budgets to buildings that are registered as national treasures.

Moreover, there is another preservation site in Chiang Mai province besides the area within the city.

It is called "Wiang Kumkam" which was also established by King Mung Rai before moving to Chiang Mai.

Because of a flood, Wiang Kumkam was abandoned and left unattended since the establishment of Chiang Mai.

Many important sites of Wiang Kumkam were discovered under sand about a decade ago, and the area was recently designated as another conservation area in the Chiang Mai Comprehensive Plan.

The regulation of Wiang Kumkam preservation area is different from that of the old Chiang Mai city.

Wiang Kumkam is recognized as a historical site and is taken care of by the Department of Fine Arts, Ministry of Education.

New buildings are not permitted to be built within this area because it was only recently announced as preservation area.

## *Implementation of Preservation Policy*





Picturesque scene of rural Chiang Mai (left) and Thai elephants provide transportation and entertainment (right)

The preservation area and regulations were established by the Department of Town and Country Planning. The Chiang Mai Municipality is in charge of its implementation.

It is necessary to revise the present regulation to make the guidelines more precise.

Many different post-modern buildings with gable roofs are permitted to be built under the present regulation.

Such new constructions are alienated from the old city atmosphere.

Furthermore, because land usage of this conservation area is not well defined, there have been several new businesses established in the old city area and make preservation process of the area become harder.

In addition, some high-rises were built just across the street from the preservation area, hampering efforts to maintain the old city's atmosphere.

#### Remarks

An efficient preservation policy implementation requires some changes, such as: first, there should be a buffer zone surrounding existing preservation area so that the skyline of the city would gradually change from the preservation area.

Second, there should be detailed regulations for land usage, for instance, building forms that would make the preservation area of Chiang Mai should have Lanna atmosphere than what it appears now.

Third, local government should be both planning and implementing the preservation policy at the local

level.

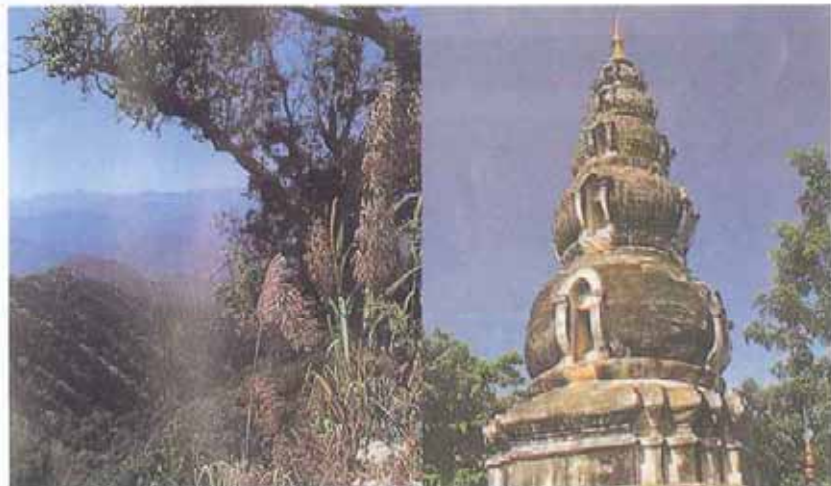
Fourth, the central government should provide preservation budget to save private cultural heritage as well as those designated as national treasures.

To conclude, even though the preservation policy of Chiang Mai is not well implemented from an academic point of view, Chiang Mai is still a lovely historical city.

There are still many historical sites that are beautiful and worth visiting.

For more information:  
Tourism Promotion and Development  
Section, Chiang Mai, Thailand  
Tel:66-53-252478  
Fax:66-53-233952

The mountain scenery of Chiang Mai (left)  
Wat Ku Tao temple (right)



*The 22nd Session of the World Heritage Committee, Kyoto, Japan*

The 22nd Session of the World Heritage Committee was held in Kyoto at the Kyoto International Conference Hall from Monday, 30 November to Saturday, 5 December 1998. Approximately 300 participants from Japan and the rest of the world gathered in Kyoto, including representatives from States members of the Committee. Prior to the Committee Session, the Session of the World Heritage Bureau was held on Friday, 27 November and Saturday, 28 November, where the agenda of the Committee was discussed in advance.

The World Heritage Committee is an intergovernmental committee that was established in accordance with the World Heritage Convention (officially called the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage) and is comprised of

21 States members, including Japan.

The objective of the World Heritage Convention, which to date has been concluded by 153 countries, is to establish a system of international co-operation and assistance toward the protection of cultural and natural heritage as world heritage of humankind as a whole. Japan concluded the Convention in 1992.

Natural Properties of 3 sites and Cultural Properties of 27 sites which include the sites in the member cities such as the La Grand-Place, Brussels and the Historic Monuments of Ancient Nara, were inscribed on the World Heritage List at the Kyoto Conference. The Mayor of Kyoto, Yorikane Masumoto, the Chairperson of the League of Historical Cities, gave the address of welcome at the opening session of this conference.

It was decided that the next session will be held in Marrakech, Morocco next year.

*It is said that the 21st century will be a century of spiritual rediscovery. Despite, or perhaps due to globalization and the rapid development of science and technology, and increasingly highly information-oriented society, not only material but also spiritual wealth will be in demand.*

*Under these circumstances, it can be said that conservation of the World Heritage sites will become increasingly significant because these monuments help people understand and tolerate different cultures as well as giving us spiritual satisfaction.*

*Enveloped in the beautiful natural surroundings, Kyoto has over 2,000 historical properties including National Treasures and Places of Scenic Beauty. They are our inheritance of over 1,200 years of history. As the treasury*

*of Japanese culture, Kyoto represents the soul of the Japanese people.*

*As the Mayor of this city, it is my duty to preserve Kyoto, the city of beautiful nature and bountiful cultures, as a place for people of the world to meet in place and exchange ideas and cultures beyond the differences of race, religion or social structure.*

*It is now the most beautiful season in Kyoto. The whole city is ablaze with autumn leaves. On this occasion, it gives me a great pleasure that you have an opportunity to contemplate the natural and cultural aspects of this city.*

-Extract from the address of welcome by Yorikane Masumoto, Mayor of Kyoto at Kyoto Conference-



The opening of the 22nd session of the World Heritage Committee at Kyoto International Conference Hall. (left)  
Historic monuments of Ancient Nara which was inscribed on the cultural heritage list at the last Conference.



WORLD

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

# HISTORICAL CITIES

NO. 16: MARCH 1999



The Sultan Ahmet Square in Istanbul

## Istanbul



The silhouette of the Sultan Ahmet Mosque (the Blue Mosque) at sunset. The Sultan Ahmet Mosque is the supremely elegant, imperial six minaret mosque of Sultan Ahmet I. Built between 1609-1616 by the architect Mehmet, it is known as the Blue Mosque because of its magnificent interior decoration of Blue Iznik tiles. During the tourist season there is a light and sound show in the evening.

Istanbul, the only city in the world built on two continents, stands on the shores of the Istanbul Bogazi (Bosphorus) where the waters of the Black Sea mingle with those of the Sea of Marmara and the Golden Horn. Here on this splendid site, Istanbul guards the precious relics of the three empires of which she has been the capital; a unique link between East and West, past and present.

Beneath the unchanging skyline of her domes and minarets, there is the continual bustle and movement of the crowd, the rumbling of vehicles along the ancient cobbled streets, the incessant coming and going, and cries of street sellers mingling with the sounds of shipping in the busy ports.

Istanbul has infinite variety: museums, ancient churches, palaces, great mosques, bazaars and the Istanbul Bogazi (Bosphorus).

### *The heritage in the city*

Our city is inscribed on the list of UNESCO's world heritage as Historic Areas of Istanbul. The municipality of Istanbul makes a great effort to maintain its beauty of this city in cooperation with the Ministry of culture and Historic Preservation Council.

The Ministry of culture, Historic Preservation Council and Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality have drawn up the inventory to identify the heritage and established a fund to carry out this operation.

Istanbul has a diverse heritage since she has been the capital of different empires and cultures such as Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman.

Some important forms of these heritages are Mosques, Churches, Synagogues, Museums, City Walls and others.

Our city has a specific feature which is different from the rest of

the world. The heritage in Istanbul stems from the different cultures and periods. Also, Istanbul has been the capital of many civilizations and their important heritage is located in Istanbul. Whereas, most of the heritage in other cities is inherited from one culture.

### *Tools for the conservation of the heritage*

The protective measures taken at the initiative of public bodies proceed from regulations and incentives.

We have a registration in urban planning documents, conservation plans, classification procedures, protected areas, orders to carry out renovation work and preemptive rights as regulatory means.

The public authority is expected to take measures in the event of deterioration of registered heritages.



SPECIAL REPORT

The report from member cities for the survey about tax measures to preserve residential areas of historical value.

The secretariat of the League of Historical Cities conducted a survey of tax or tax-related measures or any other forms of incentives to preserve residential areas of historical value on member cities.

We will look at the reports from member cities.

**Yogyakarta (Republic of Indonesia)**

Culture and nature preservation areas are designated. Incentive or disincentive tax system is not introduced. Architectural change in this areas is restricted.

**Konya (Republic of Turkey)**

Konya has some regulations and laws related with this preservation such as;

\*not to take real estate tax from buildings registered as historical.

\*provide credit with a rate of 5% interest for a 20 year-term to owners whose historical buildings need to be restored.

\*if the owner accepts, the building may be used for touristic purposes such as restaurant, hotel, etc. In this case, the ministry also pays credit with a low interest.

**Zurich (Swiss Confederation)**

Assistance through tax measure is not available, but small financial contribution is given to the renovation plan of an old house privately owned.

**Edinburgh (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)**

There are no special taxation arrangements for important / historic buildings other than when a building is empty. In this situation, exemption is granted from the empty property tax to encourage owners to maintain the property in good condition.

**Lisbon (Portuguese Republic)**

We take the following measures to help the preservation of historical houses and buildings and benefit its owners.

\*exemption of municipal tax

\*exemption of all taxes related to municipal licenses for rehabilitation works in these houses.

**Melbourne (Australia)**

There are three main sources of incentive and assistance available at Federal, State and Local level respectively.

The Federal government's Tax Incentive Program offers a 20% tax rebate to owners for works to buildings of national significance. The state government has a heritage fund. This program offers low interest loans to owners of buildings of state significance. The city of Melbourne has its own low interest loan program, known as the Melbourne Heritage Restoration Fund. This program offers low interest loans to building owners.

**Prague (Czech Republic)**

as follows;

**Vienne (Republic of Austria)**

as follows;

**Prague (Czech Republic)**

The city of Prague has the system used for financing restoration of protected heritage sites in our city and for assisting their owners according to laws and regulations in effect in the Czech Republic.

The tax measures for preservation of historical heritage are also available in our city.

Direct government financing of preservation and restoration of historical, cultural and heritage sites is provided exclusively for cultural heritage sites based on applicable provisions of Czech National Council law.

The state budget of the Czech Republic regularly allots funds to the Ministry of Culture which, based on

various programs, distributes these funds through municipal and district authorities to proprietors of cultural heritage sites for financing preservation and restoration thereof.

District authorities also allot funds from their budgets to owners of heritage sites (individuals and legal entities) for preservation and restoration purposes.

These grants cover the cost by which restoration of a cultural heritage site or a part thereof exceeds usual costs of property restoration.

In comparison with other areas of the Czech Republic, the budget of the City of Prague has much higher revenues and expenditures.

The volume of funds which are released from the municipal budget including government subsidies, taxes collected from individuals and enterprises, local revenues, fees and fines for the needs of preservation and restoration of cultural heritage sites, corresponds to the above mentioned facts on the basis of an approval of the Prague City Council.

Based on laws and regulations of the Czech Republic, owners of cultural heritage sites enjoy certain advantages pertaining to restoration of their property.

These advantages include the free assistance from professional organizations and heritage protection authorities, materials and information for restoration, and local investigation, research and documentation of cultural sites.

*Another way of protection for the residential heritage zone are taxes or other taxation measures levied by the City of Prague.*

Based on a new taxation system which entered into effect on January 1, 1993 by the adoption of the taxation law, only a number of individual types of taxes may be levied in the Czech Republic.

As a rule taxes are levied in relation to taxpayers' income, directly or indirectly, or as property taxes.

Subsequently, based on the law on budget guidelines, tax revenues are distributed into areas specified in the state and local (municipal) budgets.

For instance, the city of Prague receives;

- (1) 100% of revenues from properties located within the municipality;
- (2) 100% of revenues from income tax collected from individual entrepreneurs whose residence is within the City of Prague.

Municipalities have no way of affecting the amount of tax revenues by levying surtaxes or through other measures under the present structure of taxation system.

Despite that, tax revenues are the most important source of income for municipalities, including the City of Prague where taxes amount to more than three quarters of all revenues.

Municipalities may impose local fees to supplement their budget revenues.

The City of Prague collects the following fees:

- \*local animal registration fee,
- \*local fee for use of public areas,
- \*local fee on accommodation capacities,
- \*local fee on recreational stay.

Both tax revenues and revenues from local fees are included as budget income without being reserved for specific use.

Funds for restoration of heritage sites are allotted as part of the process of determining the use of municipal budget funds.



The panorama of Historic Center of Prague

Vienne (Republic of Austria)

*How to finance the Restoration of Protection Zones by the Viennese Fund for this purpose.*

In 1972, the city of Vienna promulgated a law to put the preservation of its historical zones under municipal administration.

The first protection zones, which are part of the land use and development plan for Vienna, were introduced in the same year and systematically expanded and enlarged over time.

Today Vienna disposes of 107 protection zones comprising roughly ten thousand individual objects, which equals about nine percent of the entire building stock.

The largest of these protection zones covers the entire historical city of Vienna including the world-famous Ringstrasse boulevard and the adjoining monumental edifices dating from the second half of the 19th century.

The protection zones comprise former suburbs, rural areas at the urban periphery, cemeteries, parks and gardens as well as working-class quarters and industrial areas dating from the turn of the century.

However, the protection zone designation process is far from

completed.

Vienna's protection zone concept constitutes a dynamic, ongoing development that needs to be adapted to the current state of research and actual requirements.

For this reason, the City of Vienna has commissioned a scientific-practical study which will redefine the essence of the protection zone concept and entail a significant extension of the size and number of Vienna's protection zones in the coming years.

From the very beginning, competent politicians and experts were aware that both the successful implementation of the protection zone concept and the efficient rehabilitation of relevant building stock required adequate funds in the form of subsidies.

The special fund was established which is mainly endowed on the basis of "Viennese Culture Subsidy Law" and "Viennese Law on the Preservation of Historical Architectural Ensembles".

This instrument, which came into force on 1 March, 1972, institutes a contribution today amounting to 10 percent of the TV and radio license fee for cultural purposes, in particular the

preservation of the city's old building stock.

While in the first full business year of the Viennese Fund for the Preservation of Historical Architectural Ensembles - i.e. in 1973 - subsidies amounting to roughly 19,225,000 Austria Shilling - (approximately \$1,500,000) were granted for 105 objects, these figures rose in the course of time; the greatest number of subsidized objects per year was already achieved in 1976 with 214 objects; the highest subsidy total was granted in 1995, amounting to approximately 131,500,000 Austria Shilling - (or \$10,350,000).

From the establishment of the Viennese Fund for the Preservation of Historical Architectural Ensembles until late 1997, a total of 3,372 objects were rehabilitated with subsidies amounting to more than 1,870,000,000 Austria Shilling - (or \$148,000,000).

The objects eligible for subsidies under the law are manifold, which corresponds to the comprehensive definition of the term "Historical Architectural Ensembles".

According to the principles of the Viennese Fund for the Preservation of Historical Architectural Ensembles, subsidies may be granted for;

- a) the preservation or restoration of built structures; the location of these structures in a protection zone is not absolutely essential to receive a subsidy; rather, any object may be subsidized if its preservation is important because of its historical, cultural or artistic value or its particular significance for the outlook of the neighborhood;
- b) the design of public traffic areas, this may concern surface materials, lighting fixtures, park fences etc.;
- c) the restoration of ground-floor zones around shop entrances because these are of particular importance for the visual appeal of the streetscape;
- d) the preparatory work such as color schemes and documentary material; for this reason, scientific studies, architects' services, material analyses and trial restoration work are principally eligible for subsidization, thereby providing a reliable basis for suitable quality of these works and quality control;
- e) the work done in connection with the regulation of protection zones, and the research of protection zone.



## WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES

On the basis of these principles, a large share of the subsidies concerns privately-owned buildings or other objects in the historical city center.

As a rule, subsidies are granted for additional costs incurred due to exterior preservation, i.e. the restoration of street and courtyard facades, passageways and roofs.

Recently, however, common facilities - and in particular installations - of buildings are increasingly subsidized, for example historical lifts, glass windows etc.

Meeting halls or ballrooms are also subsidized if these premises are accessible to the general public.

In keeping with this principle, subsidies are granted not only for the entrance doors of old shops but also for their interior if this is historically valuable, which is often the case with the renowned late 19th and early 20th century cafes or shops which are a typical features of Vienna.

The term "additional costs incurred due to exterior preservation" requires some explanation: subsidies are granted for the major share (currently, this is generally 80 percent) of the restoration costs if these go beyond

the scope of simple building renovation.

Practically, this means subsidizing the cost difference between the cheapest roof cover and ceramic-tile roofing, which is in accordance with the monument preservation laws, or reimbursing the costs of reconstructing historical facade ornaments.

The subsidy applications are evaluated by an honorary advisory board composed of members of the Viennese City Council, specialized employees of various municipal departments and the Austrian Office for Monuments and Sites, representatives of relevant institutes of Vienna University and other experts.

The preservation and protection of our historical heritage is imposed not only by ethic requirements and aesthetic necessity; it is more than just another element of a flourishing tourism industry.

The balanced and harmonious use of historical city quarters markedly enhances the well-being of the people who live and work in these old buildings.

With more than twenty-five years of experience and the visible improvements, it has added to the outlook of the city, the Viennese Fund for the Preservation of Historical Architectural Ensembles could therefore serve as an example at the international level.

*The Meeting of Board of Directors of the League will be held on Tuesday, 22nd of this June in Montpellier, France where the 7th World Conference and the General Assembly of the League of Historical Cities will be held in 2000.*

Agenda Items are below;

1. Admission of Applicants to membership
  - Ballarat in Australia
  - Hebron in Palestinian National Authority
2. Membership fee issue (consultation item)
3. Fiscal Year 1999 Project (report item)

### The League of Historical Cities List (59 cities from 48 countries)

Accra (Republic of Ghana)  
 Alexandria (Arab Republic of Egypt)  
 Algiers (Algeria)  
 Amsterdam (Kingdom of the Netherlands)  
 Athens (Hellenic Republic)  
 Baghdad (Iraq)  
 Barcelona (Spain)  
 Bordeaux (French Republic)  
 Boston (United States of America)  
 Bratislava (Slovak Republic)  
 Brussels (Kingdom of Belgium)  
 Budapest (Republic of Hungary)  
 Chiang Mai (Kingdom of Thailand)  
 Cologne (Federal Republic of Germany)  
 Cordoba (Spain)  
 Cracow (Republic of Poland)  
 Cusco (Republic of Peru)  
 Dublin (Ireland)  
 Edinburgh (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)  
 Fez (Kingdom of Morocco)  
 Florence (Republic of Italy)

Guadalajara (United Mexican States)  
 Hague (Kingdom of the Netherlands)  
 Hanoi (Socialist Republic of Viet Nam)  
 Helsingborg (Sweden)  
 Iasi (Romania)  
 Isfahan (Islamic Republic of Iran)  
 Istanbul (Republic of Turkey)  
 Jerusalem (State of Israel)  
 Kaesong (Democratic People's Republic of Korea)  
 Katmandu (Kingdom of Nepal)  
 Kiev (Ukraine)  
 Konya (Turkey)  
 Kyongju (Republic of Korea)  
 Kyoto (Japan)  
 Lahore (Islamic Republic of Pakistan)  
 Lisbon (Portuguese Republic)  
 Melbourne (Australia)  
 Mexico City (United Mexican States)

Montreal (Canada)  
 Montpellier (France)  
 Nanjing (People's Republic of China)  
 Nara (Japan)  
 Paris (French Republic)  
 Prague (Czech Republic)  
 Quebec (Canada)  
 Rio de Janeiro (Federative Republic of Brazil)  
 Rome (Republic of Italy)  
 Santiago de Compostela (Spain)  
 Tashkent (Republic of Uzbekistan)  
 Tunis (Republic of Tunisia)  
 Ulan Bator (Mongolia)  
 Varanasi (India)  
 Vienna (Republic of Austria)  
 Xian (People's Republic of China)  
 Yangon (Myanmar)  
 Yogyakarta (Republic of Indonesia)  
 Zagreb (Republic of Croatia)  
 Zurich (Swiss Confederation)

PREVIOUS  
CONFERENCE

## *The 5th Conference*

in Xian, People's Republic of China

September 9th to 13th, 1996

theme : Revival of Historical Cities

number of participating cities : 39 ( 51 countries )





WORLD

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

# HISTORICAL CITIES

NO. 17: JULY 1999



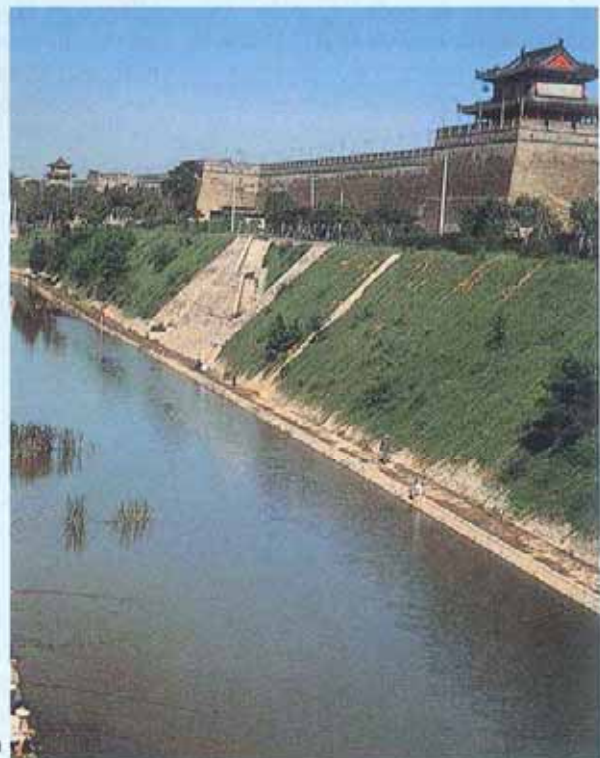
St. Stephan and the view of Vienna, Austria

*Vienna*

*Xian*

*The meeting of Board of Directors*

*Interview*



The City Wall and the Moat in Xian, China

## Vienna

Restoration and Reconstruction of the Assembly Halls of Vienna



The Press Foyer in the former roof area in the Hofburg.

Austria has assumed the presidency of the European Union for the second half of 1998.

The Assembly Halls of Vienna, which were devastated by a fire in November 1992, have been developed into a Conference Center owned and managed by the Republic of Austria in order to meet the additional demands of EU Council meetings.

When construction engineers were faced with the task of restoring and reconstructing the Assembly Hall Wing of Vienna, they had to decide whether to rebuild the entire hall in accordance with the original plan, or whether to restore what had survived the fire, and replace the missing parts with element designed in a contemporary style.

The Assembly Hall Wing of Vienna is one of the best known parts of the palace and adjoins the National Library, the Spanish Riding school, as well as the stable of the famous Lippizaner horses.

Engineers opted for the latter version with the result being a composition of the highest quality with a harmonious intermingling of old and new.

The work was completed according to schedule thus allowing the Assembly Halls to be used as a venue for meetings during the current Austrian presidency of the European Union.

After a devastating fire broke out in the Assembly Hall wing of Vienna in November 1992, many Austrians considered this to be a national disaster. International media provided extensive coverage for this event.

Today the halls are once again in the public eye, this time as a venue for meetings on the agenda of the Austrian presidency of the European Union. The latest utilization of the hall is entirely in keeping with their historical tradition.

It was here that the Viennese Congress danced in the winter of 1814/15, that Ludwig van Beethoven gave piano recitals, and that Nicolo Paganini performed his first Viennese violin concerto in 1828.

Numerous world famous waltzes were first played at the balls held in these halls, and between 1921 and 1927 many legendary performances of the Vienna State Opera were

staged here.

From an architectural point of view the Assembly Hall forms a complex which has developed over the course of time, and still contains in its walls the remains of the 17th century structure.

The layout of the Hall dates back to the periods of Maria Theresa, (1744 to 1748), when they were converted according to plans drawn up by the architect Jean Nicolas Jadot de Ville Issey from Lorraine.

Since then they have been altered several times. The baroque elements in the interior, which were still visible before the fire, were part of a conversion carried out in 1893 according to plans by the architect Ferdinand Kirschner.

The fire, the cause of which still remains unknown, did considerable damage. The baroque roof framework of the entire wing collapsed and was completely destroyed. The Large Assembly Hall was most heavily affected; the ceiling and lower part of the walls and the floor structure all fell prey to the flames, and the stucco decoration on the walls was severely damaged.

A new concept of "monument preservation" influenced the planning of the restoration and reconstruction work.

Hence it was decided to restore parts which had survived the fire, and replace the missing parts with elements in a contemporary style which would form a synthesis with the existing structure.

The concept behind the plan is most apparent in the Large Assembly Hall; the wall area, eighty percent of which had survived the fire, was maintained in its original form.

For the first time ever in the history of architecture the so called calcined stucco (the high water content of stucco is reduced or eliminated during a fire) was restored here in Vienna.

However, in accordance with the concept underlying the work, those areas completely destroyed by fire such as the ceiling, floor and lower part of the walls which were replaced by contemporary architecture.

International artists were asked for their ideas, and from amongst entries submitted to the experts' committee between June and November 1994, that of Austrian painter Josef Mikl was chosen as the winner.

His project consists of a ceiling painting dedicated to Youth, a poem by the well-known Austrian satirist Karl Kraus, and 22 smaller paintings depicting scenes from plays by the great playwrights Ferdinand Raimund, Johann Nestroy and Elias Canetti.

They are dominated by a fiery red and yellow, which harmonizes in a virtually classical manner with the historical white and gold decoration of the walls.

The solution proposed for the Large Assembly Hall is not the first of its kind, yet this Viennese example is characteristic of a new trend in monument preservation which essentially draws on the area of tension between old and new.

The smaller of the two halls was

far less affected by the fire than the larger one, renovations made were through traditional methods. Although one third of the ceiling had collapsed, the greater part of the structure, including the historic interior, was saved and largely preserved. Even the wooden floor, which is a Viennese oak parquet, survived the fire and was restored.

With the EU Council Meetings in mind it was decided to turn the Assembly Hall into a conference center for the Federal Republic of Austria on the express condition that the halls would still be available for theater and opera performances, balls, and other cultural events.

Hence, in the course of the reconstruction work, the entire technical infrastructure was overhauled to meet the demands of both present day conferences and theater performances.

A state of the art air heating system was installed in both halls which integrated some of the existing warm air ducts.

Interpretation booths are partly hidden by tall mirrors which are transparent from behind. There are facilities for video and TV transmissions, and the entire wing has been equipped with an active and passive fire protection system.

The interaction of old and new mentioned earlier is also apparent in the so called Press Foyer in the former roof area.

The foyer, with a surface area of approximately 1,200 square meter was created primarily for the EU Council Meetings. The huge steel and glass structure of the roof extension is not visible from the Josefsplatz, but overlooks the inner courtyard.

It offers a full view of the historic St. Michael's dome which was built by Ferdinand Kirschner in 1893. In the same year, the same architect also built the Large Assembly Hall.

Thus history returns to its starting point; old and new come together in perfect harmony, without conflict but as a union of the highest quality.

*For further information,  
Chief Executive's Coordination Office,  
Municipality of Vienna, Republic of  
Austria  
phone 43-1-4000-82-202  
fax 43-1-4000-7122*



LEFT : The cleaning-up operations at the Large Assembly Hall immediately after the fire of November 26-27, 1998.

RIGHT : The view of the St. Michael's dome from the Press Foyer in the Hofburg.

## XIAN

*Protection of Historical Relics*

The Huaqing Hot Springs - the hot spring takes its name from the Hua Qing Palace constructed by Emperor Xuan Zong. It was here that the tragic Lady Yang Fufei spent much time with the Emperor.

Xian, a world renowned historic and cultural city which was an international metropolis in the period of the Han and the Tang Dynasties, has plenty of historical and cultural relics under ground in the long course of its development.

Today it is one of the show-windows where an outsider can see about the opening of China. Statistics show that the annual number of tourists from overseas amounts to over 400,000.

With the exploitation of cultural relic resources, the protection of historical relics is becoming increasingly important.

In recent years we have made a lot of headway in the preservation and repair of ancient buildings, and in the protection of key historical relics - especially large historical ruins, by adhering to the principle of efficient protection, rational utilization and forceful administration.

In recent years we have taken a series of effective measures to improve the overall management of

the historical relics preservation.

The municipality holds a meeting every year on the relics work at which the municipal government signs responsibility contracts for relic protection targets with the governments of the counties and districts.

The governments at the district and county level hold similar meetings every year to pass on the message of the municipality to the local authorities, and to sign responsibility papers with the town leaders.

At the same time various meetings are held to promote the network of relic preservation so that the broad masses may better participate in the protection of ruins and relics in the open fields. We have also held training courses for the heads of sites.

In this way many valuable relics have been rescued. Further more remarkable progress has been made in the classification and labeling of relics.

Labeling involves marking the

protection scope, protection sign, protection institution and the records on a label. This scientific catalogue system facilitates consulting and inquiry.

The responsibility contracts that are signed with the district and county governments, and municipal museums, ensure the examination of supervision of the work. As a result all the stored relics have been safe from fire hazard for 8 consecutive years.

We have completed the construction of the protection centers of Efanggong Palace (the Qin Dynasty) and the Changan City (the Han Dynasty), thus meaning that each of the four great dynasties (Zhou, Qin, Han and Tang) now has its own preservation Center.

We have also tightened our administration of the market of relics and their imitations with the help of the public security authorities and the industrial and commercial administration organs.

This enables us to further crack down on the illegal trading of relics,



LEFT : The Drum Tower - symbolic architecture in Xian. RIGHT : Small Wild Goose Pagoda

and to safeguard the normal order of the relics market.

Publicity work has been carried out citywide so as to enhance the citizens' awareness of relics preservation. This publicity includes billboards, broadcasting and leaflets.

Local legislation on relics protection has been accelerated in recent years.

Promulgated is a Circular of Xian Municipal Government on the Promotion of Relics Preservation, and a Circular on the Relics

Preservation in Capital Construction.

Regulations of Xian Municipality on the Administration of the Historic and Cultural city and Measures of Xian Municipality on the Administration of Imitations of Cultural Relics are also promulgated.

In terms of repairing ancient architectural works, we have completed the following projects; the recoloring decoration of the Drum Tower, the repairing of the

base of the Bell Tower, the illumination of the Drum and Bell Towers, the installation of lightning arrestors atop the Dayan Pagoda and the South City Gate, the protective restoration, the preparation for relocation, and the building of the southern wall of the Qinshihuang Mausoleum.

*For further information,  
Foreign Affairs' Office  
Xian Municipal People's Government  
People's Republic of China*



LEFT : The bicycle is the standard mode of transportation of the citizens of Xian. RIGHT : The terracotta Warriors of the First Emperor of the Qin

The 5th meeting of Board of Directors in Montpellier, France



LEFT : The next conference of the League of Historical Cities will be held at this hall "LE CORUM".

RIGHT : The representatives at the last meeting of the Board of Directors, Ms. Prat (Paris) , Mr. Fabre (Montpellier) , Mr. Masuda (Kyoto) , Mr. Feng (Xian) , Mr. Larbiou (Montpellier) [ from left to right ].

Three Director cities, Paris, Xian and Kyoto were present at this meeting and the 4 cities of Katmandu, Rio de Janeiro, Zurich and Cracow had sent the Delegation of Powers to the Chairperson.

Besides the examination of the application for membership, reports were made from the secretariat regarding the 7th Conference of Historical Cities, the League's activities for fiscal

year 1999 and the account settlement of the League of Historical Cities. The membership fee problem was also put under consideration.

The preparatory meeting between the host city, Montpellier, and the chairperson and secretariat city, Kyoto was also held regarding the 7th World Conference of the Historical Cities.

**7th World Conference of Historical Cities**

**Schedule :** July 5th (Wed.) - 8th (Sat.) 2000  
**Main venue :** Le Corum, Einstein Hall (used for both opera theater and international conference)

**Official languages :** English and French  
**Theme of the conference :** History and Value  
**Themes of the working session:**

1. Architectural coherence and urban integration in a historical city

2. Historical city and Mediterranean harmonization of cultures
3. Integration of a historical city in a modern economy
4. Tourism and Historical cities

The new principal officers will be elected at the General Assembly and a meeting of the board of directors by the new principal officers will be held on July 7th.



The landscape of the historical district of Montpellier





WORLD

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

# HISTORICAL CITIES

NO. 18: SEPTEMBER 1999



The main street, Rio Branco Avenue in Rio de Janeiro

*Bordeaux*

*Rio de Janeiro*

*Interview*



The Quinconces Square in Bordeaux

## Bordeaux

Urban project of Bordeaux



The night view of the Bordeaux Municipal Hall

Bordeaux was founded no less than 22 centuries ago.

Much of the influence of the Middle Ages can still be found throughout our city with the Sainte Croix Church and the Basilique St. Michel being just two excellent examples.

They were completed on the eve of the Renaissance in an extremely pure Gothic style in the old Bordeaux.

During the English period, major buildings were constructed in Bordeaux.

In addition to those already mentioned, the Big Bell served at the city's belfry, such as it is represented in the coat of arms of the town.

Recently it has been back to its former beauty.

The 18th century brought the implementation of the philosophy of the Age of Enlightenment under the management of the Intendant Tourny.

He wanted the city to be built rationally, with a harmonious layout, boasting buildings to match its new

lifestyle.

The vast avenues of the city were laid out, to the detriment, of course, of older building and streets. Thus making Bordeaux one of the symbols of the beauty of the classical age.

The city of Bordeaux blossomed in the 19th century when the lay-out of the boulevards and the city garden were completed.

The 20th century was some what unkind to Bordeaux.

The hitherto all-important port progressively lost its activity with the development of new means of transport other than by sea, thus resulting in the decrease and final disappearance of the special links between France and its colonies in Morocco, Africa and parts of South-East Asia.

Only the West Indies continued for some time to maintain regular shipping lines with Bordeaux.

On the positive side, the 20th century saw the creation of two new districts, under the inspiration of the

Mayor at the time, Jacques Chaban-Delmas.

It also saw the development of a major industrial complex located on the outskirts of the Urban District.

This included the Ford plant at Blanquefort, the arrival of an highly advanced aerospace industry and the establishment of the pharmaceutical industry and computer industry.

When Alain Juppe was elected Mayor of Bordeaux in June 1995, he found himself at the head of a city weighed down by centuries of existence as an old back-dated city and faced with problems that were extremely difficult to solve.

He was imbued with the spirit of a builder and challenged with the task of renovating the city while at the same time respecting its past.

The urban plan that was presented during the election campaign was ratified by the population.

The plan focused on the following four main themes.

**The first was the renovation of those parts of the city which had suffered from a distinct lack of maintenance over the past few decades.**

The clear determination to re-center the city around the river involved the redevelopment of the two banks of the Garonne.

On the right bank, the industrial wasteland and the abandoned houses were removed and replaced by new projects such as new housing affording a pleasant lifestyle.

Furthermore, the creation of a free zone covering part of the area of La Bastide and the re-design of an area of urban incentive should bring about a renewal of industrial and commercial activity.

The plan called for the destruction of the now unused port hangars and the re-establishment of a link between the river by the

symbolic removal of the gates separating the port from the town.

Other projects included the layout of a parkway for pedestrians, cyclists and roller-skaters; the creation of numerous facilities for children and adolescents; and the development of new activity around the river; in particular, the creation of a Sunday market which has proved to be a great success. The decision to build a tunnel between the right and left banks is a further element of urban renovation and of economic revival.

**The second objective was to restore the beauty of the monuments of Bordeaux.**

The cleaning of the buildings along the embankment is a long task which is scheduled to be completed in 2001. This magnificent architectural ensemble will then once again draw the eyes of this inhabitants- if it doesn't already does- and of the regularly increasing number of tourists.

Other historic buildings such as the Big Bell ( Grosse Cloche ) and the Eglise Notre-Dame has already been renovated.

It is worth noting in particular the extremely beneficial effect of these undertakings for the renovation of our monuments and buildings which give a new importance to the city.

The programme has been set, but its implementation will perhaps take decades, as it is well known that such operations for the restoration and maintenance of our architectural heritage call for continuing action.

Saint Andrew's Cathedral is a good example: it took 9 centuries to build it, and it has benefited ever since from constant care.

**The third important component of the programme consists of the renovation of those areas of the city that have suffered from a certain impoverishment and a lack of maintenance.**



The Grand Theater, established in 1780, is the the model of the Opera in Paris.



The Historic landscape of Bordeaux

Particular efforts are being deployed for the restoration of buildings and the construction of new complexes, avoiding the sprawling character of the 1970's.

It can be seen that each area provides the proof of the attention devoted to them by city councillors.

**The fourth component is the construction of the tramway, a major part of the municipal programme.**

This is designed to make the city more pleasant to live in through a noticeable reduction in the number of cars, thanks to the construction of this effective and modern mode of transport.

The tramway will facilitate public transport and give the city a new vitality by enabling the population of the suburbs to commute more easily into the city center.

The programme for the construction of the tramway is accompanied by operations for the restoration of the streets and buildings lining the roads along which the tramway will run.

Our programme is ambitious, but proportionate. It has been given a very warm welcome by the population with a satisfaction rating of over 70 %. It will mark a new lease of life for Bordeaux, the restoration of its beauty, and the expansion of its economic activity.

Bordeaux is ready to move ahead for several centuries of renewed grandeur, beauty and happiness for all its inhabitants.

*For further information,  
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Municipality of Bordeaux  
Republic of France*

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The City Assembly Hall of Bordeaux

*Rio de Janeiro*

The city landscape and the Copacabana beach from the hill of Corcovado

Rio de Janeiro was founded in 1565 on a small hill facing Guanabara Bay on the Atlantic Ocean.

Its growing importance was first linked to the shipments of gold to Portugal and later to the commerce of coffee. Being

the most important Brazilian city for so long, Rio de Janeiro's historical heritage encompasses nearly 3,600 protected buildings.

In 1979 the city of Rio de Janeiro launched a process to protect its heritage, and so far around 10,000 historic buildings have been put under protection by municipal law, most of these buildings being located in the city center or in its immediate neighborhood.

Widely known for its beautiful landscape, Rio de Janeiro owes its fame to the presence of the sea, the beaches and the huge forested mountains that crisscross it.

However, not many people are aware of the role the city played in the history of the country.

Having been the capital of Brazil for over a century, Rio de Janeiro has managed to preserve much of its Brazilian architecture, ranging from the baroque style to the neo classic.

Therefore, upkeeping the historical heritage in harmony with the development of the city is and will for many years be the main task of the municipal government.

As deputy mayor in charge of the central district of Rio de Janeiro, my main task is to manage the delicate balance between the protection of our historical heritage and the need to modernize our city center.

This task requires combining the challenge of increasing traffic demands with the need for more pedestrian space, as well as attracting modern enterprises whilst maintaining the support of traditional activities.

This requires involving the population in this process by increasing their awareness of the importance of conserving historic buildings, as well

as reinforcing the attractiveness of the city center against the competition of new development areas outside of it.

Therefore, the meetings and activities of the League of Historical Cities serve well to make us aware that we are not alone in the fight to preserve our historical heritage, in spite of the social, economic and environmental differences between our cities.

They also let us see and hear about new experiences that we can learn from in order to keep our cities in touch with the problems with which other cities are currently facing and their solutions.

Rio de Janeiro is ready to contribute to this process by demonstrating how a relatively new city is dealing with the task of protecting its natural and cultural landscape whilst meeting the challenge of modernizing a city of 12 million inhabitants with its expected enormous



The Municipal Theater

social and economic problems.

Rio de Janeiro relies on the League of Historical Cities to help member cities to keep in contact via their common problems and solutions.

It hopes that the League will put into practice a program of cooperation between its affiliates, in which technicians and city directors can exchange their experiences through topical seminars and working visits, thus learning how to best protect their heritage.

*For further information,  
International Relations and Protocol  
Municipality of Rio de Janeiro  
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The 6th meeting of the Board of Directors will be held in Rio de Janeiro in 2001.

It has been decided that the city of Rio de Janeiro will be the host city of the 8th Conference of the League of Historical Cities in 2002.

(The next 7th Conference will be held in Montpellier in France in 2000.)



The Carnival in Rio de Janeiro



WORLD

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

# HISTORICAL CITIES

NO. 19: JANUARY 2000



Xuanwu Lake Park in Nanjing, China

*Helsingborg*

*Nanjing*

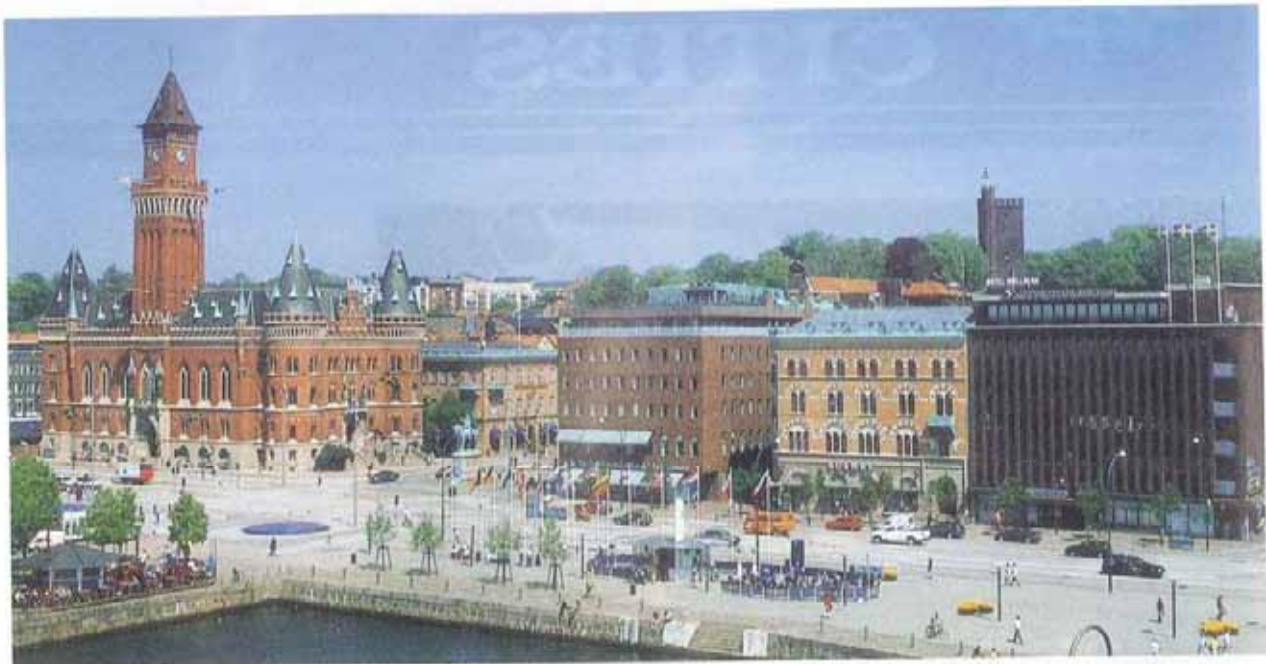
*The 7th World Conference of Historical Cities*

*Interview*

The Town Hall of Helsingborg, Sweden



## Helsingborg The role of historical buildings in town planning



The view of the center of Helsingborg. This part of the town was built at the end of the 19th century. The building to the left with the high bell tower is the Town Hall.

With less than 120,000 inhabitants, the city of Helsingborg is the smallest member of the League of Historical Cities.

But it is a good example of the truth of the expression "small is beautiful".

It is lovely situated on the eastern shore of Oresund, the narrow straight between Denmark and the southernmost part of Sweden (Scandinavia), and its topography makes its beauty unique in Scandinavia.

The history of Helsingborg goes back to the Viking Age. During that period the country of Scandinavia became a part of Denmark, and as the Danish king was in deed of a stronghold in this region a royal castle was built in Helsingborg during the 12th century.

Two hundred years later a monumental dwelling tower in brick became the most predominant building of the castle.

The castle was destroyed at the end of the 17th century, but the tower called Karnan was too strong to be pulled down.

Today it is the oldest building of the town and the very symbol of Helsingborg.

Due to frequent wars between Sweden and Denmark Helsingborg was almost completely destroyed during the 17th century.

In the middle of century Scandinavia became a part of Sweden, and so Helsingborg became a Swedish town.

During the 18th century Helsingborg was one of the smallest towns of Sweden, an idyllic place, more like a village than a town.

It was inhabited by merchants, artisans, seaman and fishermen, living in small half-timbered houses.

At the end of the century the number of inhabitants was less than 1,800.

During the 19th century Helsingborg was immensely vitalized by new harbors, the arrival of two railways and the industrial revolution.

The half-timbered buildings of the previous century were replaced by higher and much bigger buildings, built in brick and

originally decorated with plaster in a classical style.

At the end of the century the plaster decoration was out of fashion, there are many good representatives of pure brick architecture in Helsingborg.

A typical example of that is the monumental Town Hall in the middle of the town. It was built in 1892- 96 in neo - Gothic style.

Thus, the main buildings of Helsingborg are not very old, however as in all of Scandinavian buildings dating from the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century are now regarded as valuable part of a modern town.

Such buildings are not built any more, and together they form an important part of the identity of the town.

The problem is that many of them are in a bad state of preservation or have been rebuilt to such a degree that very little of their original character remains.

In such cases their value to the historical area is somewhat diminished.



## WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES



above ; Landscape of Helsingborg 900 years ago.

left : The view of an old part of Helsingborg. In earlier days the steep street was the main road to and from the town. The green globe in the foreground is a memory in honour of the Danish astronomer Tycho Brahe(1546-1601), who grew up in the town. The preservation of the environment is warranted through a municipal decision.

In order to make clear which historical buildings are too valuable to be lost and to restrain destructive forces from buying and pulling them down. **Plans for the preservation of buildings are now carried out.**

This planning is carried out by a committee consisting of antiquarians from the local museum and authorities from the municipal board of works.

The planning started in 1980 and dealt with the center of the town.

Since then, plans for many other parts of the town have been carried

out.

In the meantime the appraisal has changed, and today buildings in the early functionalist style of the 20th century are also regarded as valuable memories from the past.

The best example of that is the Concert Hall, built 1930-32 and famous all over the world.

Consequently, Helsingborg is well prepared for what concerns the preservation of historical buildings to meet the challenge of the future.



The Helsingborg coat-of-arms

The oldest preserved coat-of-arms is found on a seal from the year 1468. It shows a medieval castle built around a cylindrical tower. In 1946 the coat-of-arms in its present form was established.

*For further information,  
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City of Helsingborg, Sweden*

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The Concert Hall of Helsingborg (1930-32), a famous example of functionalist architecture.

## Nanjing

Strengthening Preservation of Cultural Relics and Displaying Characteristics of Ancient Capital



The landscape of Nanjing city with Jimingsi-temple.

Nanjing, known as the famous ancient capital of six dynasties, has become one of the first groups of well-known historical and cultural cities in China.

The attractiveness of Nanjing has been attributed to various cultural relics from Song, Liang, Southern Tang, Ming, the Taiping Heavenly Kingdom and the Republic of China.

Approximately 800 cultural relics are designated for preservation.

The discovery of anthropological ruins and skull bones of *Pithecanthropus* indicates that as early as 6000 years ago, Nanjing had been a region where human beings lived in compact communities and where those primitive villages had come into being.

Since the 3rd century, a total of 10 dynasties or regimes had made it their respective capitals one after another.

As a place of commercial importance, Nanjing has a longer

history of traditions in the development of commodity economy.

For the present, Nanjing has developed into a multipurpose industrial base in East China, a vital communications centre as well as one of the four key cities in scientific researches and education, playing an important role in the development of the entire national economy.

The preservation of cultural relics has met with new opportunities and challenges with the rapid development of the economy and the urban construction.

Nanjing City has put forward the strategic development objectives of rebuilding the riverside city combining characteristics of ancient capital with modern society.

These plans have been approved by the State Council.

Therefore a number of measures have already been taken.

Regulations designated for preservation of cultural relics have been enacted. And other regulations on preservation of underground cultural relics are being enacted.

Gradually, the legal system for preservation of cultural relic has come into being.

The Bureau of Cultural Relics is responsible for the management of municipal cultural relics.

It is implementing the policy in accordance with economic and social development plan, financial budget, urban construction plan.

By way of signing responsibility certificates with district and county governments, governments at various levels are held responsible for preservation of cultural relics.

In addition, areas for preservation and construction control have been planned.

And special preservation planning for some major preservation places like Zhongshan

## WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES



LEFT : The Mochou Lake Park in Nanjing. RIGHT : Dr. Sun Yatsen's mausoleum in Nanjing.

Mausoleum have been made.

Publicity activities and monitoring of preservation areas have been effected and the preservation network of government and private sector has been formed and improved.

The commemorative Garden for the Restoration of Ming City Wall and Crescent Lake Park have been built, and the municipal museum and

Ming City Wall Museum have been renovated.

More efforts have been made to preserve historical relics in order to promote economic development and to satisfy the cultural needs of people and to display beautiful characteristics and potentials of Nanjing.

*For further information,  
Office in charge of opening to outside  
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The entrance path to the Ming Xiaoling with a pair of stone-carved guardian dogs.

PREVIOUS  
CONFERENCE

*The 6th Conference*  
in Cracow, Republic of Poland  
May 25th to 28th, 1998

theme : Heritage and Development of Historical Cities  
number of participating cities : 30 ( 22 countries / 1 area )



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## **The League of Historical Cities Secretariat**

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