



# WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin No.32: September 2004

- Accra
- Alexandria
- Algiers
- Amsterdam
- Athens
- Baghdad
- Baliarat**
- Barcelona
- Bordeaux
- Boston
- Bratislava
- Brussels
- Budapest**
- Chiang Mai
- Cologne
- Cordoba
- Cracow
- Cusco
- Dublin
- Edinburgh
- Fez
- Florence**
- Guadalajara
- Gyeongju**
- The Hague**
- Hanoi
- Helsingborg
- Iasi
- Istanbul**
- Istanbul
- Jerusalem
- Kaesong
- Katmandu
- Kazan**
- Kiev
- Konya
- Kyoto**
- Lahore
- Lisbon**
- Melbourne
- Mexico City
- Montpellier**
- Montreal
- Nanjing**
- Nara
- Paris
- Prague
- Quebec**
- Rio de Janeiro
- Rome**
- Santiago de Compostela
- Tashkent
- Tunis
- Ulan Bator
- Varanasi
- Vienna**
- Xian**
- Yangon
- Yogyakarta
- Zagreb
- Zurich

*The examples of restoration and protection of historical architecture of THE HAGUE*

*The Review of the 8th World Conference of Historical Cities in Montreal*



# The Hague's examples of restoration and protection of historic architecture

by Bruno Bruins, Alderman of Transport, Inner city and Monuments, City of The Hague

## Green City by the sea

The Hague has always been called the green city by the sea. First and foremost, the Dutch see this city as the home of the Royal Family and the seat of government and parliament. Foreigners tend to think of The Hague as the center of high-level diplomacy, international law and central government. Historically, The Hague has always been at the heart of the Dutch democracy. The Hague is a multifaceted and fascinating city, full of atmosphere. The city prides itself on its many historic buildings, imposing 19th century-mansions, picturesque plazas and lush parks. At the same time, The Hague boasts well-designed new housing, modern stores and a thriving local economy. Indeed, The Hague seems to be in a perpetual state of renewal.

In the 13th century, Count William II built a castle in what is now the center of The Hague, around which several buildings came to be clustered. The entire complex is known as the Binnenhof (Inner Courtyard). Ever since, The Hague has been the seat of government in the Low Countries and the home of the Royal Family. Noblemen at court built their houses in the vicinity of the castle, followed in their wake by craftsmen and merchants. The Binnenhof quickly developed into a sizable community. Since the village lacked any defensive walls, it was able to expand without encroaching on its parks and other wooded areas. As a result, The Hague has remained an attractive city full of greenery. In the 17th century canals were dug around the town to keep out thieves and robbers. At the time, The Hague had about 70,000 residents. After 1850, homes and buildings sprung up outside the ring of canals, and the population of The Hague grew quickly. In the process The Hague absorbed the fishing village, Scheveningen and another coastal village, Loosduinen. This expansion gave The Hague another specific quality: its position at the North Sea with a coastline of 11 kilometres long and two seaside resorts. Nowadays, The Hague covers an area of 71 km<sup>2</sup> and has a population of approximately 450,000 people. The green character is still predominant: as much as 1/3 of the area consists of parks, gardens and green avenues. *(The Peace Palace houses: the International Court of Justice; cover photo)*

## The Hague's Development of History

The development history of The Hague of more than 750 years is very noticeable in the city. The eight centuries have all passed down beautiful buildings, of which most can



The Houses of Parliament (Binnenhof), during the opening of the parliamentary year in September

obviously be found in the old inner city. Next to its historical buildings, The Hague is mainly typified by its city's expansion from 1850. The city has been laid out in a number of phases, a development that still continues. This high production has presented the city with many beautifully built quarters, in which again many valuable buildings in an architectural sense, have been constructed. This rich historic-cultural heritage can be illustrated by a few statistics: The Hague owns 2,500 conserved monuments and 18 urban conservation areas with a total surface of 20 km<sup>2</sup>.

The Hague has been changing continuously for the past 750 years. People incline to think that this is happening faster and fiercer all the time. The developments happen in rapid succession: restructuring parts of the city, construction of infrastructure facilities and city expansions. All these developments are essential because they contribute to further reinforcement of the working, housing and social climate. Next to the dynamics of renewal, there is also the dynamics of preservation, restoration, adjustment and reuse. Those many valuable conservation areas and monuments are highly appreciated. Preservation of the heritage is the first matter of importance, so that it can keep its function in city life and remain a valuable experience for present and future generations. Flexibility is the key-word in the historical buildings policy, flexibility regarding the object as well as the subject. Only when monuments have a permanent and preferably profitable function, preservation is within reach on the long term. 'Preservation by development' is



The Royal Palace at the Noordeinde, The Palace of HMS Queen Beatrix

the motto here. Great experience has been gained in The Hague with the restoration, upgrading or reuse of important, conserved monuments and monumental complexes.

## Four Examples - Preservation by Development

### 1. The Royal Theatre

A number of cultural institutions was traditionally situated in monumental buildings. A striking example is the Royal Theatre, which has been established in an 18th century palace (architect: Pieter de Swart) since 1804. At the end of the 20th century the theatre again needed modernization and restoration due to numerous reasons. Apart from great overdue maintenance, there were mainly problems within the theatre itself. The stage tower, the stage and the stage opening were too small and technically outdated. The auditorium and all other rooms for the public did not supply any modern comfort. The horizontal and vertical transport was complex, not facilitated adequately and could not be used by disabled people. All installations were highly outdated, the building was flammable, etc. It was a very complex task: an acceptable solution had to be found for all deficiencies, without affecting the existing qualities - the auditorium with its famous acoustics and interior. The Belgian architect Charles van den Hove managed to complete this difficult task successfully and gave the Royal Theatre a future as a cultural institution and historic-cultural monument. The project cost 15 million US\$.

### 2. The Hague Municipal Museum

The Hague also has many so-called young monuments. One of these is the Hague Municipal Museum from 1929-1935, the last piece of work by the famous architect H.P. Berlage. This building had near enough the same problems as the Royal Theatre, a complete restoration and upgrading was needed here, too. The margins within which solutions had to be found for all problems were very small in this case. The architectonic concept of Berlage did not allow for big and gross intervention. Paradoxically, falling back on the original concept turned out to be the right basis for solving most of the problems here. With a total amount of 28 million US\$, the restoration of the Hague Municipal Museum was the most costly restoration ever carried out by The Hague Council.

### 3. The Third Technical School

An example of a 'young monument', that lost

its function and had to be restored and reused, is the Third Technical School. This school was built after the design by J. Duiker. When the building lost its original function, an institution started to look after this top monument. The institution gave the building a new life by destining it as a multi-tenant building for creative professions (architects, graphical designers, photographers, etc.). And in this case, too the margins for adjustment were small, considering the architectonic concept of Duiker. The utility performance of the building still had to be increased, for example the indoor climate. The restoration architect, HTV Architects succeeded to do this by applying a thin facade insulation and double glazing without changing the appearance of the building perceptibly. The total costs for this amounted to 4,5 million US\$.

### 4. The Amicitia Building

The Amicitia building is the most recent example of restoration and reuse. This complex of buildings knows a long history of development and use. In the 15th and 16th century there was a monastery, and from the end of the 16th century until the beginning of the 20th century an orphanage. From 1920, Amicitia was given new purposes, such as a society's building, conference centre, cinema, theatre, cafe and discotheque. A long period of decline, decay, lack of occupancy and partial demolition was followed by a drastic restoration, reuse and expansion at the end of the 20th century. 36 houses were built in the complex with an investment of 6 million US\$.

## Future Challenge

These four examples are just some of a succession of projects carried out. The motto 'preservation by development' realized a good and permanent result for each single project. The next categories of difficult and non-profitable monuments in The Hague will also be approached with the experience gained. A first challenge has already presented itself: many churches will lose their religious function in the future. The Hague



1. The Royal Theatre (Architect: P. de Swart)



2. The Hague Municipal Museum (Architect: H.P. Berlage)



3. Third Technical School (Architect: J. Duiker)



4. The Amicitia building (Architect: E. Saraber)

*For further information*  
Municipality of The Hague  
Bureau for  
Monuments and Sites

PO Box 12655, 2500DP  
The Hague, The Netherlands  
Phone: +31-70-353 4800  
Fax: +31-70-353 4854  
[http:// www.thehague.nl](http://www.thehague.nl)

Are Development Costs an Expense or an Investment?  
 Round-Table III with FLORENCE, LYON & SAGUENAY  
 The Review of Montreal Conference - VI

**Case Study in Florence:**

Cities and other local authorities are managed as business operations, with customer satisfaction as their goal. In this case, the customer is the whole of humanity.

Known as a city of the arts, Florence is rich in cultural heritage with strong historical and scientific value, which have played an influential role in the city's social and economic development. Florence was ranked number one by UNESCO for its outstanding number of cultural heritage possessions. Florence's cultural heritage is a living academy of the arts. Keeping this heritage in good condition requires financial resources, usually stemming from the public funds. All the parties concerned must be involved with preservation activities in order to make a suitable investment with multiple economic benefits.

When an expenditure enhances the value and the profitability of a projects, then it can be considered a true investment. In this context, active preservation and effective use of cultural heritage is necessary for sustainable development of the city. Generally speaking, the expense is applied to the immediate problem, but there are long term effects to be considered as well. From the view point of IASC, the International Accounting Standards Committee, an investment is understood as an expenditure with potential long term benefits. It is our mission to extend the life span of cultural heritage so that it may be enjoyed by generations to come. An investment that insures the longevity of heritage means that less money will be needed in the long run. Although it is difficult

**Case Study in Lyon:**

True investments in cultural heritage will be produced as a result of citizens' awareness of the importance of landscape and the meaning of memory & identity.

Heritage-related policy is costly and financial analysis is an indispensable tool for evaluation. The definition of heritage is not restricted solely to historical buildings. Lyon has placed an emphasis on developing the social and immaterial aspects of cultural heritage, and their value. As a result, the 2000 year-old historical cityscape remains dynamic across economic, social and cultural spheres. With this balanced development scheme, the historical district of Lyon was designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. We have a great responsibility to maintain the good



Mr. Claudio Mastrodicasa, an architect employed by the City of Florence, stated that the purpose of investment was to make the best use of assets in order to increase the value and profitability of the project.



[Florence] Florence's artistic and architectural heritage produces priceless economic value and preservation projects also come under the purview of economic development. Some of Florence's monuments have been restored by the contribution of major private corporations.

to determine the actual fiscal expenditure in a special case like this, the long term effects of an investment must be taken into account. The working group has been established to research the cost of restoration and as well as conduct economic analysis to determine the best solution. Continuous investment is necessary in order to pass our historical legacy to future generations. **Case Study in**



Mr. Patrice Beghain, Deputy Mayor of Lyon, Responsible for Culture & Heritage, concluded that past memories and future projects must be the twin pillars of a city's heritage policy for wise investment.

condition of our "city heritage". From an accounting standpoint, we must continue to invest in this area, although the heritage-value can not be evaluated by cash



Mr. Tremblay, Mayor of Montreal, appealed the fruitful outcome of the 8th conference to the media. Photo: Denis Labine

### Case Study in Saguenay:

The first thing to consider is how to effectively protect heritage without laying too heavy a burden on its taxpayers.

The city of Saguenay, with the population of approximately 150,000, was created after the merger of seven municipalities in the area in 2002. The revitalization of older neighborhoods is the foundation for a center-outward municipal redeployment and development strategy. The basic idea here is to maintain the tax base while countering the expense of urban sprawl.

The benefits to citizens include; an enhanced quality of life, easier access to public facilities, improved housing while preserving the old architectural style, as well as the maintenance of the market value of properties

### Perspective from the Expert:

Properly managed building heritage can be a tool for competitiveness because it attracts residents and capital as much as it attracts tourist.



Mr. Bruce McNiven, a corporate and commercial lawyer and member of the board of directors of Heritage Montreal, believes that heritage conservation can be extremely profitable, as long as it takes place in a context of long-term analysis.

How to preserve the historical heritage of an area for the public good is always a controversial issue. Those who insist on working toward preservation agree on the importance of the aesthetic and cultural characteristics of a city. On the other hand, those who are against preservation worry about the subsequent reduction of expenses to other areas, especially the creation of jobs. As these two sides remain as far apart as ever, the argument that heritage is a useful tool for economic development is needed. For the municipal government to confront this major conflict, it must draw investments to create employment and develop the economy through heritage preservation.

Many high-tech companies currently occupy the western area of Montreal as tenant.



Mr. Jean-Yves Provencher, Deputy Mayor of Saguenay, presented the fact that successfully implementing urban management policy requires huge investment in infrastructure, renovation and programs to assist housing restoration.

in an environmentally friendly city.

Large-scale action must be taken by adopting a regulatory framework that designates the city center for use by professional

The values of the old buildings in this district are highly evaluated. Not only are the unit prices of the land valued, but the townscape, including the character of the area and buildings add to the favorable factors. Through the preservation of the old buildings, the value of the property is heightened. This means that the economic effect is enhanced. In this context, long-term investments are proven to be beneficial.

People settle in to the neighborhood, start to invest in the area, work to maintain the living conditions, including the heritage environment. If properties are preserved, their value increases and the real estate market responds positively. According to this good circulation, the city sees an increase in the taxes and royalties it collects. This is a very practical use of the city. The historical buildings boost the value of the city, and the city is branded with their character. In short, the heritage is the marketing hallmark of the city, both domestically and internationally, as well as becoming its architectural signature. The unique character of the city is formed in the process of its long history, and is what differentiates each city from each other. This is valued far beyond what it stands for as a sightseeing resource.

Improving the citizens' better understanding of their own city produces responsible citizens who love their city. When citizens increasingly foster a sense of a shared identity and shared property in the city they live in, the sum total of their economic choices points the city in the right direction, and ensures its sustainable development.



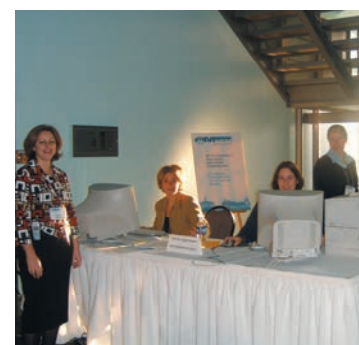
Mr. George Bosse, Member of the Executive Committee responsible for Economic Development of the City of Montreal, played as moderator.



Mr. David Vendy, Mayor of Ballarat, provided a short history of his city, which will act as host to the 10th World Conference of Historical Cities in 2006.

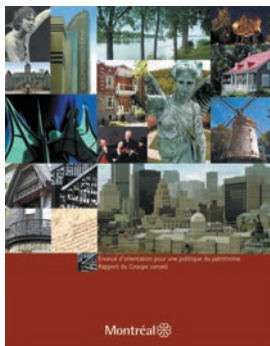


Mr. Luca Nitiffi, President of Rome special committee represented the City of Rome



Thanks to the Montreal City staff, the 8th Conference was led to the tremendous success.

# Montreal



**Montreal is in a position to adopt a true heritage policy that will guide municipal actions and will be one of the first large cities to adopt such an instrument.**

Following the Montreal Summit in 2002, the city committed to mapping out and implementing a heritage policy.

That commitment was reaffirmed by the adoption of Montreal Declaration at the 8th World Conference of Historical Cities in last October. Against this backdrop, the Executive Committee appointed an advisory group to produce a directional statement as a guide for the city's development of a heritage policy .



On April 5, 2004, Ms Francine Senecal, Executive Committee Vice-President Responsible for Culture and Heritage, received the initial Directional Statement on Heritage Policy. This important blueprint document was filed with the Executive Committee by Ms Gretta Chambers, Chancellor Emeritus of McGill University

and chair of an advisory group of some 15 citizens created in the fall of 2003 to define the broad strokes of a heritage policy for the city. There are 5 suggested directions in the heritage action: development, awareness, ownership, preservation and management.

Ms.Senecal said, "To work jointly with key stakeholders in the field is vital. It is a perfect illustration of our willingness that to create an advisory group made up

of citizens with various backgrounds, who really care about their city. This is a way for civil society to get involved in the conservation and presentation of our heritage. We will make public the principles which will guide decisions regarding heritage conservation and presentation by adopting an official heritage policy until the end of 2004."

The full French version of the Advisory Group's report are available on the Web :

<http://www.ville.montreal.qc.ca/patrimoine/enonce.htm>**Montreal is in a position to adopt a true heritage**

# Lisbon



**Lisbon hosted "the 9th International Conference of Port Cities Lisbon 2004" and gave an unique opportunity to take stock of each participant's own development strategy.**



Mr. Pedro Santana Lopes hosted the port conference, when he was Mayor of Lisbon, until 17th July 2004. (Now Prime Minister of Portugal.)

Lisbon's many different sides do much to explain the cosmopolitan history of the city. Its exceptional natural light, which has long inspired writers, photographers and filmmakers, the brightly coloured buildings straddling the slopes, the striking ochre of the roofs, the tiling on so many facades and the narrow twisting alleys of the medieval districts bestow Lisbon with the peculiar atmosphere of a city perched somewhere between the European north and the Mediterranean south.

Lisbon is also a city with a maritime vocation and tradition that has throughout the centuries strengthened a deep relationship with the sea. Today, as a pole of modernity, Lisbon has successfully integrated its urban and

economic development into its harbour structures, which also represent an integral part of its identity.

Following Dalian, Republic of China in 2002, port cities from all over the world gathered in Lisbon from 5th to 9th July 2004 for the 9th International Conference of Port Cities. The participants debated the main theme, "modernity and identity of the port city":

- 1.Port competitiveness, urban modernity
- 2.City-port;two strategies for a single ambition
- 3.Challenges of putting the port heritage into value
- 4.Lisbon metropolitan area; back to the river
- 5.Living and working in the port city
- 6.The conditions for an active port at the city port interface.

Lisbon was the privileged place to host "the 9th International Conference of Cities and Ports", that would strongly contribute to the search of solutions aiming at the sustainable development of port cities as well as at the improvement of the quality of life of their inhabitants.

Contact: Association Internationale Villes et Portes (AIVP)  
<http://www.aivp.com>**Lisbon hosted "the**

**Nanjing held the "2004 Nanjing World Historical & Cultural Cities EXPO" and announced that cultural innovation is the driving force for the sustainable development of cities and civilization progress for human society.**



Mr. Jiang Hongkun, Mayor of Nanjing, held "2004 World Historical and Cultural Cities Exposition", Nanjing, China from last 30 April - 6 May . With the active participation of 21

cities from all over the world, including Kyoto, they attended 6 series of over 50 activities such as Mayor's Forum, Youth Forum, World cultural product exhibition, Auto show, Temple fair, Folk music, Jazz, Ballet performances, and so forth.

On last 1st May , 21 mayors or mayor representatives from world historical and cultural cities hold Mayor's Forum on the topic of "City and Human Civilization" in Nanjing International Convention and Exhibition Center. At the forum, mayors exchanged information and recounted the glories of their respective cities. Based on repeating consideration, full communication and delivering speech, their dialogue formed the foundation for Nanjing Declaration of Cultural Exchanges and Cultural Heritage

Protection of World Historical and Cultural Cities. The mayors and mayor representatives signed "Nanjing Declaration" together on the forum as fruitful outcome of Expo.

*The world has entered the era of urban culture-centered information civilization. We, around the theme of City and Human Civilization, and on the basis of mutual respect and understanding and seeking common ground while respecting differences, carried out extensive dialogues and in-depth discussions on topics of mutual interest and reached the common understanding of Enhancing Dialogue and Advancing Civilization. We agree:*

1. Cherishing city's history is cherishing mankind's future.
2. The urban culture is tangible but also intangible.
3. The localness of urban culture has wide world significance.
4. The origin and form of urban cultures are different but we have common pursuit.
5. Culture is the crystallization of human wisdom and citizens are the principal of urban culture.
6. History forges the urban culture and culture nurtures the city's future.

**1st May, 2004, Nanjing Nanjing held the "2004 Nanjing World Historical &**

# Nanjing



21 cities from all over the world - Anyang, Barcelona, Beijing, Chengde, Daejon, Florence, Hangzhou, Kaifeng, Kyoto, Leipzig, Lijiang, Luoyang, Melbourne, Melaka, Nagoya, Nanjing, Pingyao, St. Petersburg, Vienna, Xi'an, Zhengzhou - are gathered in Nanjing.

### Announcement

The next Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held in Gyeongju, Republic of Korea in October 26-28, 2004, and will be discussed about the 9th World Conference of Historical Cities.

City of Gyeongju  
800 Dongcheon-dong,  
Gyeongju, Republic of Korea  
Phone: +82-54-779-6087  
Fax: +82-54-779-6399  
<http://www.gyeongju.go.kr/>

The League of Historical Cities Secretariat  
International Relations Office, City of Kyoto  
Teramachi Oike, Nakagyo-ku,  
Kyoto 604-8571, Japan  
Phone: +81-75-222-3072  
Fax: +81-75-222-3055  
E-mail: lhcs@city.kyoto.jp

### From the Secretariat



We must make history and assume our roles in the evolution of the world.  
 Montreal Executive Committee Member : Helen Fotopulos



**Helen Fotopulos**  
 Member of the Executive Committee  
 then Responsible for Culture and  
 Heritage : City of Montreal

*On behalf of the City of Montreal, I would like to thank everyone who has played a part in the 8th World Conference of Historical Cities, which has been so important in nurturing discussions on our shared responsibility vis-a-vis history.*

**Closing Remarks of the 8th Conference**

For our goal here has truly been to "make history," by weaving our actions into the historical narrative of our shared urban existence. We have come from many horizons to share, exchange and debate ideas. Above all, we have made a commitment to preserve the heritage of our cities, while smoothly integrating that heritage into the modern faces of those same cities. We have determined that participation by our citizens is essential, because it is the only guarantee that they will support our efforts, and the only way to be certain that a common heritage is enjoyed by all, as it should be. We have also agreed on the vital importance of mapping out, by policy-making or other means, both short and long-term visions of what actions should be taken to safeguard heritage.

But what this 8th World Conference of Historical Cities has allowed us to realize above all is that the issue of heritage in urban settings is universal, but co-exists with the singular notion of urbanity. We are now citizens of the great global village. As our cultures are now dispersed, they have an urgent need for exterior signs of the passage of our individual histories: this anchoring of identity is essential to social coherence and cohesion. It is the sudden awareness of Other Peoples and Places, - curiously enough, a by-product of globalisation- that has sparked in all of us a greater awareness of ourselves, of our own respective heritages.

**Montreal Declaration**

As representatives of cities often faced with urgent needs, struggling with market forces, or with a lack of means or true powers, we have gathered in Montreal in search of a better way of life. We have come together to share our experiences, mistakes and success stories, and we have opened the door to a true sharing of heritage's best practices.

On the strength of these multiple exchanges, we have therefore agreed to act in concert and have signed the Montreal Declaration, whereby we recognize:

- \*The full importance of urban heritage and its diverse expressions, and the need for interactions amongst our communities;
- \*The responsibility of municipal authorities in heritage issues;
- \*The urgent need for civil society to join in our efforts to preserve, by the provision of information, consultation and joint efforts between concerned populations and our private, public and international partners, such as UN-HABITAT; and
- \*In accordance with the requirement for accountability on the part of decision-makers, the need to make public our intentions in matters of heritage, the principles that will guide us, the nature of the actions we intend to take, and accurate, credible timetables for said actions.

The commitments in declaration have far-reaching implications; indeed, our goal is for them to be remembered as a milestone in our collective urban history.

**Complimentary close**

I trust that the 8th World Conference of Historical Cities held in Montreal has raised the proper questions and provided some avenues toward answers, and I wish all the best for those who will pursue these goals in Gyeongju in 2005, and in Ballarat in 2006.

Last January, Montreal Mayor, Gerald Tremblay entrusted me with the new responsibilities for Scientific Institutions, Parks, Green and Blue Spaces as well as the New Historical and Natural Borough of Mount Royal. Ms Francine Senecal, Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee, is now responsible for Culture, Heritage and the Historical Borough of Old Montreal. *On behalf of the City of Montreal, I would like to thank everyone who has played a part in the 8th World*

**The League of Historical Cities Secretariat**

International Relations Office,  
 City of Kyoto  
 Teramachi Oike, Nakagyo-ku,  
 Kyoto 604-8571, Japan  
 Phone: +81-75-222-3072  
 Fax: +81-75-222-3055  
 E-mail: lhcs@city.kyoto.jp  
 URL: <http://www.city.kyoto.jp/somu/kokusai/lhcs/>

**The 9th World Conference of Historical Cities**

October 18-20, 2005

**City of Gyeongju, Republic of Korea**

800 Dongcheon-dong, Gyeongju, Republic of Korea  
 Phone: +82-54-779-6087  
 Fax: +82-54-779-6399  
<http://www.gyeongju.go.kr/>

**The 10th World Conference of Historical Cities**

2006

**City of Ballarat, Australia**

PO Box 655, Ballarat, Victoria, 3353, Australia  
 Phone: +61-3-5320-5553  
 Fax: +61-3-5332-4224  
<http://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au/>