Mumbai Reader '08

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Supported by
central Mumabi and the even older communities of South
roads being widened to the channels of the mill districts and
settlements, from occupants along the railway lines and
systematic displacements of people from various forms of
and reconstruction are of course connected to vast and
space of construction. These projects of construction,
doing things spent navigating this new
of disused and wasted time spent navigating this new
in dug-up roads, stalled traffic and a general exasperation,
and many rail projects that are underway have resulted
undergoing redevelopment. Mega-infrastructure initiatives
and buildings are being constructed and existing ones
it is no exaggeration to state that Mumabi today is an
the landscape of the Mega-Project.

RENOVATING THE CITY:
issues that are strikingly similar in all cases of displacement. The privatization of different kinds of properties to deal with their implementation. This multiplicity has resulted in the well as because of the multiplicity of agencies involved in the ad hoc and piecemeal nature of the implementation as affected the existing development plan significantly by already. These policy decisions have already

increases in FSI granted systematically across the city. Other concessions granted to private developers, especially luxury forms enabled by a market for 115% as well as the various parts of Mumbai, both North and South, are the taller than 15 stories that are under development in several of the high-rise buildings (buildings). The occupation into the real estate form of private property. The new built environment, are financial instruments in their various sizes. I can call them "soft" infrastructure enabling the emergence of a new social housing initiatives. These initiatives, which had been previously conducted with architects and with MHADA in collaboration with MMRDA, as well as with the builders collaborating with MMRDA. The initiatives like MURP and NURP also include building construction and rehabilitation of persons affected by the various areas in building construction by the MMRDA. The buildings constructed by the MMRDA for the "PA" or persons affected by the various scenarios that have been made possible by the "soft" infrastructure initiatives. This scenario, which is also very new buildings, some of which are officially classified heritage

Vjayanthi Rao)
collaborates with those processes that seek to dispossess and
in so doing, even progressive scholars and activists
the presence of excluded and peripheral groups in the city
everyday practices of place-making that substantiate the
planned as normative, they argue, urbanists miss the
failing from the point of view of planning. By entrenching
work, the problem with much urban theory lies in its
Simoone – all scholars of matters urban – have stressed in
as Solomon Benjamin, Edgar Pieterse and Abduroze

A.M. Simoone

incompleteness and incompleteness. Logic, the periphery is a space imbued with a sense of
definition and guidance of a center – since, by this
double status renders the periphery a space in need
where it counts for little in terms of its overall
to its laws and polities, while also assigning a valuation
jurisdiction of the local on the national scale – subject,
wherein the periphery is included in that it falls under the

"OCCUPANCY URBANISM: A VIEW FROM ELSEWHERE"

play in contemporary urban
to questions about urban planning to the fore and links these
review some of the recent literature that brings these
and to the production of lived place. This brief essay will
role of planning and its relationships to practices of
critical city raises fundamental questions about
world-class city raises fundamental questions about
be adequately addressed, the systemic transformation
extension of municipal and social services, dispossessing
resettlement and reconstitution. These issues include the
As Solomon Benjamin, Edgar Piretse and Abdulmalik

insufficient and incomplete.

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double status renders the periphery a space in need

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jurisdiction of the local or the national state - subject

"The periphery is invaded in that it falls under the

resettlement and reconstruction. These issues include the
activities around it: holistic, integrative and participatory planning, to
arrange the positive view of well meaning progressive academics and
NGOs in these restorations, and, as an additional plus, the
crisis’ planning and policy is completed by the role played by
planners of settlement, all realising the common
ties and patterns of settlement all sharing the common
uses the label ‘slum’ as a shorthand to point to a variety of
ambit of planned space. Of course this binary opposition
into “planned” and “slums” which must be brought into the
into “planned” and “slums” which must be brought into the
rejection of planning, which is an essential feature of the city
polarising in which state and paramilitary bodies deploying a
state and paramilitary bodies deploying a
strategic overload of projects and their associated mega-projects

"structurally civil representative" of urbanisation in turn is the ghost that haunts calls for
accompanying urbanism” that haunts calls for
to a widespread perception among global elites about an
imperial have resulted in a spectrum of positions about
This arena, Edgar Pritchard shows, is broadly labelled the
waged to ensure that citizenship claims are made through
normative hypotheses about what cities might and should
global South has been largely thought through particular
academic and policy frameworks, the urban context of the
becomes an act of design in and of itself. Both within
that characterizes the city in so doing it simultaneously
part of the circuit of breakdown, repair, and renovation.
Research, as was in other words, becomes a
knowledge and its translation into acts of renovation
between research and design or between the production
research context lies in the constant blurring of the lines
Within the social sciences, the peculiarity of the urban as

**Visualizing the Future: In lieu of the master plan**

Planning will necessarily have an impact upon conceptions of
forms and states of normality, such reconceptualizations
fundamentally upon insights into the generation of such
and its environment or milieu. Since design actions depend
stressed the continual generation of new forms and states
those modernist planning. Instead, Cangilliam
will also require a new reconceptualization of normality,
following the French philosopher of science, Georges
a point to be stressed here is that all this
philosopher of science, and finally, what kinds of design actions
urban landscape and finally, what kinds of design actions
might be shaped by these new forms of research and
might such new narratives have upon the contemporary
in the rest of this paper. I would like to ask, what then

*Interventions in the Development Plan: Some Conceptual Notes*

(address, *France City* (2008), 724)
must be supplemented by representational thinking - as those exemplified by surveys and statistical methods in this regard, forms of representative thinking - such as the case with urban visions of urban citizenship and productive urban design and planning. This view of development, urban design and planning is informed by an understanding of the city's role in the economy and the need to balance risk-taking and innovation in establishing new markets and the formation of global capital. On the one hand, they create forms of risk-taking and innovation. On the other, they challenge the social and economic parameters that shape knowledge about the city's role and the role of the city's inhabitants. The role of urban design and planning as part of the city's role is crucial in shaping these kinds of hypotheses and, as such, very particular visions of the city. Economic integration, as paradigmatic points out, is so doing. Economic integration, as paradigmatic points out, is so doing.

The role of urban design and planning as part of the city's role is crucial in shaping these kinds of hypotheses and, as such, very particular visions of the city. Economic integration, as paradigmatic points out, is so doing. Economic integration, as paradigmatic points out, is so doing.
for which techniques for visualizing data become critical practices. Such visualization exercises, like ethnography, are necessarily partial, open-ended and speculative. The example of the emerging Eastern "Mega" landscape given above is one such exercise in visualization that combines emergent with speculative thinking, rooted in the real. As much as urban contexts affect how we might design and plan and therefore how we think about intervening into the development plan, we should also frame the ways in which design as a process affects how we understand the urban as context. Here I am explicitly thinking of "occupancy urbanism" as a form of design practice, albeit practiced by non-professionals, which implicates land and its occupation within circuits of economic activity and politics.

Thus, research about the impact of R&R and its infrastructural demands upon the next development plan will have to take into account the ways in which these sites are being speculatively occupied, both by "PAP"s and others who have entered into these terrains as renters or beneficiaries through other means. Such research will be critical rather than utopian with regard to the goals of resettlement and will treat resettlement itself as provisional, open-ended and fluid rather than as a permanent solution to an existing crisis. For the environments that are being developed are certainly designed for obsolescence and recycling into more profitable circuits of capital. And the ways in which they are being occupied surely do not conform to the utopian expectations of resettlement project thinking. I suggest that replacing such "project thinking" with "critical thinking" might yield interesting insights for dealing with actually existing urbanism, one that follows the principles outlined by Benjamin for his material-conceptual notion of "occupancy urbanism."