UGSG Plans 7 Sessions for Washington

The UGSG Washington Program Committee, chaired by Bob Lake (Rutgers U.), has announced plans for seven sessions that the UGSG will sponsor at the Washington meeting of the AAG from 22 to 25 April 1983. Five of the sessions will feature presentation of papers:
1. "Progress Toward a National Urban Policy", organized by Gordon Clark (Harvard U.), including four or five papers on selected topics (such as reindustrialization, governance, and new technologies) by authors of the Committee on National Urban Policy reports sponsored by the National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council.
2. "International Approaches to Urban Policy", organized by Bob Lake, including four papers and a discussant who will compare cross-national approaches to urban and regional planning and policy development.
3. "Specialized Urban Communities: The Evolution of the Cultural Mosaic", organized by Peter Muller (U. of Miami) and Patricia Gober (Arizona State U.), which will provide status reports, empirical assessments, and analysis of policy implications of recent trends in key sub-national units.
4. "Intra-Urban Mobility and Public Policy", organized by Gordon Clark, including papers by geographers and HUD discussants on this theme, which has been identified by HUD’s Office of Policy Development and Research as central to its current research and policy needs.
5. "Departures and Continuities in Urban Theory", organized by Allen Scott (U.C.L.A.), which will include three papers and the remarks of one or two discussants on continuing developments in urban theory in the social sciences.

The Washington Program Committee also plans two panel sessions:
6. "Research Needs of the Federal Government", organized by Marilyn Brown (U. of Illinois), which will consist of a panel discussion with statements on research needs by representatives of key federal agencies (including HUD and DOT) and responses by geographers.
7. Geography and the U.S. Census, organized by John Adams (U. of Minnesota), which will be a panel discussion covering census geography and the 1980 census products, as well as what geographers need from and can contribute to the census, possibly arranged in conjunction with a field trip to the Census Bureau.

Persons wanting more information or who want to participate should contact the appropriate session organizer or Bob Lake, Center for Urban Policy Research, Rutgers U., Building 4061 - Kilmer Campus, New Brunswick, N.J. 08903 (Telephone (201)-932-3135).

Call for Papers on Urban Waterfronts


UGSG AFFAIRS

News from UGSG Members Wanted

At its annual meeting in Denver, the UGSG Board of Directors decided not to pursue development of a single, comprehensive directory of UGSG members and their research interests because of the time, cost, and timelines of such an effort. Instead, the Board recommended that members use the UGSG Newsletter to update their colleagues about recent and upcoming activities and research projects in which they are involved. Short descriptions should be sent to Thomas Baerwald, UGSG Newsletter Editor, Geography Dept., Science Museum of Minnesota, 30 E. 10th St., St. Paul, MN 55101. A "Members Update" section will appear in future issues of the newsletter.

1983-84 UGSG Board of Directors

Please keep this list of addresses and phone numbers of UGSG Board Members for 1983-1984:

David Hodge, Chairperson (206)-543-5294
Department of Geography
University of Washington
Seattle, WA 98195

Roman Cybriwsky, Vicechairperson (215)-787-1248
Department of Urban Studies
810 Gladfelter Hall
Temple University
Philadelphia, PA 19122

Elizabeth Burns, Pastchairperson (602)-965-7167
Department of Planning
College of Architecture
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ 85287

Randy Smith, Sec.-Treas. (614)-422-0178
Department of Geography
103 Administration Building
Ohio State University
Columbus, OH 43210

Marilyn Brown (217)-333-3349
Department of Geography
220 Davenport Hall
University of Illinois
Urbana, IL 61801

Robert Lake (201)-932-3135
Center for Urban Policy Research
Rutgers University
P. O. Box 498
Piscataway, N.J. 08854

Eric Moore (613)-547-6116
Department of Geography
Queen’s University
Kingston, Ontario K7L 3N6

Edward Muller (412)-624-6344
Department of History
3K37 Forbes Quadrangle
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Allen Scott (213)-825-7344
Department of Geography
University of California
Los Angeles, CA 90024

Thomas Baerwald, Newsletter Editor (612)-221-4760
Geography Department
Science Museum of Minnesota
30 E. 10th St.
St. Paul, MN 55101
UGSG Denver Sessions Prove Lively and Informative

Sessions sponsored by the UGSG played a major role in getting the AAG Meeting in Denver off to a rousing start, while other sessions sponsored by the group later in the week focused on the latest research in urban geography.

Especially noteworthy were panel discussions on Sunday and Monday afternoons. The Sunday session on "Outlook for the Future: A Dialogue Between Geographers and Private Developers" looked at times to be more a formal debate, with geographers Peter Muller (U. of Miami) and Eric Moore painting a less rosy picture of the fate of downtowns, including Denver's, than the image provided by Dana Crawford (developer of Larimer Square) and Dick Fleming (president of Downtown Denver, Inc.). The initial presentations in a basement meeting room of the Denver Hilton proved to be the most antagonistic, however, with a wait of 70 or so in attendance and adjourned to the 16th St. Mall to continue the discussion, which ambled through topics like the prospects for both strong downtowns and outlying centers, transit needs, and office construction, and the business acumen of department store management.

After more theoretical, the Monday afternoon discussion on "Research Priorities in Urban Geography" proved just as lively. Following statements by six representatives of various perspectives (reprinted later in this issue of the Newsletter), many of the over 150 persons in attendance jumped into the discussion. Called to question during the debate was the value of "urban" geography, the role of historical study, the need for foreign and cross-metropolitan studies, and Larry Bourne's failure to engage himself in the fray. The success of the session was symbolized by the fact that discussions continued among smaller groups of those who attended long after the session was formally adjourned, first in the meeting room, and then in the hallways outside after the next sessions began.

UGSG Business Meeting Minutes

The annual business meeting of the AAG Urban Geography Specialty Group was held in the Denver Hilton, Denver, Colorado, on Monday 25 April 1983.

1. The meeting was called to order by Betsy Burns at 5:05 p.m. There were 47 members in attendance.
2. The agenda was announced and approved.
3. Roman Cybriwsky, outgoing Secretary-Treasurer, gave his report.
   a. The minutes of 1982 Business Meeting (which were published in the May 1982 issue of the UGSG Newsletter) were approved.
   b. The treasurer's report was approved. The current fund balance is $395.43, a net increase from April 1982 of $125.05. In large part this increase was the result of financial support for production and distribution of the UGSG Newsletter from the geography departments at the University of Utah and Georgia State University. Thanks were extended to both departments. It was noted that such support is beneficial to the financial status of the UGSG, and that it would be useful if the departments of UGSG members would be willing to support the UGSG in this manner.
   c. Betsy Burns, outgoing Chairperson, gave her report on activities for 1982-83.
   d. Thanks were extended to Jim Mulvihill for his work as chairperson of the Program Committee for the Denver meeting, and to all those who worked with him in developing the UGSG special sessions.
4. 1983 election results were announced. Chairperson - David Hodge; Vicechairperson - Roman Cybriwsky; Board Members - Robert Lake, Edward Muller, Allen Scott, and Randy Smith (to replace Roman Cybriwsky, 1983-84). Continuing board members to 1984 are Marilyn Brown and Eric Moore.
5. Issues and decisions from the Board of Directors Meeting of 24 April 1983 were presented.
   a. The Board recommended that Tom Baerwald be appointed Editor of the UGSG Newsletter for an additional year. This recommendation was based on Tom's willingness (in a letter to the Board) to do so, and on his outstanding service as Editor over the past three years.
   b. The Board recommended that the Editor of the UGSG Newsletter be appointed an ex-officio member of the Board of Directors, so that he/she is made aware of administrative actions and can convey them to the membership through the Newsletter.
   c. The Board recommended that there be a reduction in the number of issues of the UGSG Newsletter distributed each year. Tom Baerwald addressed this issue. Given problems of cost and timing of production, it was recommended that there be three issues each year (in June, November, and February) instead of four issues.
   d. The Board presented recommendations for committee assignments: UGSG Secretary-Treasurer - Randy Smith; Nominating Committee - Betsy Burns (chairperson), Susan Brook-Gross, and Michael Webber; Dissertation Award Committee - Marilyn Brown and Eric Moore.

Minutes (continued)

Washington Program Committee - Bob Lake (chairperson). All those recommended to serve have agreed to do so.

Each of these recommendations was discussed and approved. Some concern was raised about reducing the number of issues of the Newsletter, with the suggestion, supported by several members, that the three Newsletters should contain more material to offset the reduction in number.

b. He noted that the early stages of the development of the UGSG, which stressed administrative matters, have now been replaced by a focus on developing our professional roles -- work on the Newsletter, Dissertation Awards, and the development of a set of special sessions for the annual meetings by our program committees.

c. Bob Lake, Chairperson of the Program Committee for the 1984 Annual Meeting in Washington, was introduced. Bob outlined plans for the UGSG special sessions at those meetings (the theme of which will be Geography and Public Policy). He noted that he had already received some suggestions for special sessions. There was a general discussion of the importance of the Washington meetings from the point of view of presenting ongoing substantive research and learning of the availability of data sources and research funding. Several suggestions for sessions were presented: geography and the U.S. census; research priorities at HUD, identification and analysis of "lifestyle communities" in the United States; progress toward a national urban policy; implications of the "new federalism"; geography as an export window; information approaches to urban policy; and a continuation of "roundtable" discussions on progress in urban geography. Bob thanked members for excellent suggestions and indicated that he would consider them in the preparation of the program. (A subsequent statement of plans by the Washington Program Committee is included on the first page of this issue.)

d. It was noted that the annual report of the UGSG would be submitted to the UGSG.
6. There was no additional business. The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

W. Randy Smith, UGSG Secretary-Treasurer

This scene of Columbus, Ohio, is from a shopping bag of The Union department store. Keep on the lookout for other urban views!—The Editor.
IBG Special Publications

Proposals for Special Publications, both monographs and edited volumes, should be sent to Dr. J. W. R. Whitehand, The Secretary, IBG Special Publications Editorial Board, Department of Geography, University of Birmingham, P. O. Box 363, Birmingham B15 2TT, England. Special Publications are available from Academic Press, Inc., 111 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10003. Recent numbers are: (12) Social Intercation and Ethnic Segregation, ed. by P. Jackson and S. J. Smith, $34.50; (13) The Urban Landscape: Historical Development and Management, papers by M. R. G. Conzen, ed. by J. W. R. Whitehand, $34.50; (14) The Future of the City Centre, ed. by R. L. Davies and A. G. Champion, $39.50; and (15) The Definitant Spaces in Cities and Regions, ed. by J. Anderson, S. S. Duncan, and R. Hudson.

Landscape

Landscape (Vol. 27, No. 1; 1983) includes articles on the Australian pub by Robert Britton and on the demolition of the New Yorker Hotel in Miami Beach by James Curtis and reviews of Polyzooids, Sherwood, and Tice's Courtyard Housing in Los Angeles by Z. Kaparty and Rouche's Special Places: In Search of Small Town America by Thomas Harvey. Single copies of Landscape are available for $5.95; a three-issue annual subscription is $18.

From order, write Landscape, P. O. Box 7107, Berkeley, CA 94707.

Meetings

Boulder Pedestrian Conference

"A Step Forward: Marketing for Pedestrians" is the theme of the Fourth Annual Pedestrian Conference, which will be held in Boulder, Colorado, on 22-23 September 1983. The theme of the conference, which is sponsored by the Transportation Division of the City of Boulder, is to bring together a multi-disciplinary consortium of professionals to focus on the design of public and private spaces for pedestrian activities. The conference will feature opening remarks by Boulder Mayor William Leonard, keynote speaker Edward Garling, and critic Wolf Von Eckhardt. There will be presentations on New York's Battery Park, Vancouver's Granville Market, Bridgetown's transit system, and pedestrian amenities in popular recreational areas like Aspen, Colorado.

Proposals for Special Publications, both monographs and edited volumes, should be sent to Dr. J. W. R. Whitehand, The Secretary, IBG Special Publications Editorial Board, Department of Geography, University of Birmingham, P. O. Box 363, Birmingham B15 2TT, England. Special Publications are available from Academic Press, Inc., 111 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10003. Recent numbers are: (12) Social Intercation and Ethnic Segregation, ed. by P. Jackson and S. J. Smith, $34.50; (13) The Urban Landscape: Historical Development and Management, papers by M. R. G. Conzen, ed. by J. W. R. Whitehand, $34.50; (14) The Future of the City Centre, ed. by R. L. Davies and A. G. Champion, $39.50; and (15) The Definitant Spaces in Cities and Regions, ed. by J. Anderson, S. S. Duncan, and R. Hudson.

Landscape (Vol. 27, No. 1; 1983) includes articles on the Australian pub by Robert Britton and on the demolition of the New Yorker Hotel in Miami Beach by James Curtis and reviews of Polyzooids, Sherwood, and Tice's Courtyard Housing in Los Angeles by Z. Kaparty and Rouche's Special Places: In Search of Small Town America by Thomas Harvey. Single copies of Landscape are available for $5.95; a three-issue annual subscription is $18.

To order, write Landscape, P. O. Box 7107, Berkeley, CA 94707.
"RESEARCH PRIORITIES IN URBAN GEOGRAPHY"

The USGS-sponsored roundtable discussion on "Research Priorities in Urban Geography" generated considerable discussion and debate, which was so lively that it was still active in small groups clustered outside the Terrace Room of the Denver Hilton almost an hour after the session officially ended. Although no transcription of the discussion was made, each of the six speakers who kicked off the session consented to have their remarks reported in the USGS Newsletter so that those who were unable to attend could get a sense of many of the issues that were raised. The session was held on the afternoon of 25 April 1983. It was organized by David Hodge (U. of Washington) and chaired by John Adams (U. of Minnesota).

Michael Dear (McMaster U.)

At the core of urban geography, right now, there is a theoretical vacuum. It has persisted since the "quantitative revolution" was absorbed, and even though many alternative philosophies have been drawn into the vacuum and tested, they have not gained wide acceptance. Needless to say, these alternative frameworks continue to provide a legacy of lasting relevance (especially Marxist and Behavioural schools). I believe that the future of urban geography is fuelled by twin trends of convergence and divergence in human geographical thought.

First, and most importantly, there has been a strong revival of historical materialist approaches in the analysis of social phenomena in most social sciences. One of the main precepts of this revival is that social processes are comprehensible only within the context of some prior analysis of the production and reproduction relations of capitalist society. It is highly significant that, in the search for materialist explanations in their various disciplines, many non-geographers have made significant excursions into the geographic realm. This is essentially true of social historians and sociologists, and to a lesser extent economists and political scientists. At the same time, geographers of a Marxist persuasion have been drawn into the vacuum and tested. They have gained much by their boldness, but they have often encountered only partial or unsatisfactory answers and have thereby been stimulated to new research efforts in the materialist critique.

Secondly, there is renewal interest in geographic theory and philosophy. This is inevitable because geographers encountering mainstream social science theory have been forced to examine their philosophical and methodological assumptions, and others in the expanded and diversified academic community have also been driven to give more account of their motivations. As present, amidst the cacophony of claims, there seems to be little common ground among competing philosophies.

Third, it is apparent that during the past decade human geography has undergone a severe fragmentation into apparently distinct sub-disciplines. Of course, such a splintering has occurred previously and is not unique to geography, but its present scale is unparalleled in geography's history. This trend toward fragmentation is evidenced by the proliferation of special interest groups within the profession, and of new journals devoted to the specialities (for instance, Applied Geography, urban geography, and political geography). The main impetus behind this fragmentation seems to be a new professionalism, as disciplines and sub-disciplines marshall forces against the general assault on tertiary education. On the other hand, the splintering of human geography has not been well-founded in any clear theoretical or conceptual rationale.

Fourth, there is a wider issue of the "loss of nerve" (or direction) undoubtedly being felt by many individuals, departments, disciplines, and institutions during this time of great uncertainty, which is political and economic. The social scientist has been called the age of analysis, and urban geography has been heavily influenced by third wave or "postmodern" orientated theories that encourage a reconceptualization of the social, economic, and spatial world. This trend has certainly found some significant urban instances, but it has also been severely challenged by the introduction of traditional approaches that have taken a hard look at the "post-traditional" society and the "post-traditional" discipline.

In summary, then, it is a time of great uncertainty in urban geography. The theoretical vacuum at the core of the discipline has been created by the genuine perplexity of the various sub-disciplines as they seek to establish their separate identities. It has been funded in socioeconomic terms beyond traditional disciplinary boundaries, and by the equally significant incursion of other disciplines into the geographic realm. The vacuum exists at a time when university education and research is under assault, and many seem to have lost their nerve and direction in human geography.

The only research priority which I wish to identify is the need for a completely reconstituted base for urban geography.

1. Why is a specifically urban geography necessary?
2. Do what urban geographers do that other geographers don't, other than they do it in the city?
3. What has urban geography got to say to the other sub-disciplines of geography?
4. The session of which human geography books get written?
5. What does urban geographical theory look like?
6. Why urban geography?

Robert Lake (Rutgers U.)

As the sins of the father are visited on the child, the foremost research priorities in urban geography may well have been set by the human geographer in general. Among these are the need for a reconciliation and synthesis of anthropocentric (read humanism) and structuralist perspectives. The "behavioral revolution" turn turned attention from space to place, from analysis of abstract spatial distributions to the study of actuality. In so doing, we certainly cannot envision this as a return not to the abstract space of social physics and distance decay functions, but rather to space abstracted after Alfred Schutz as a combinatorially constructed, ideal type environment assembled by individuals to ascribe meaning to the experienced world. Such ideal typifications are not wholly new, since they have been adopted and used by individual actors, yet neither are they wholly anthropocentric since they are created, altered, and distributed within social space.

The challenge is one of identifying the terms of the social construction of spatial ideal typifications. Two issues emerge from this endeavor. The first concerns the "actor's relation to structure": How does the individual actor define his experience with socially-embedded ideal typifications? The second considers the influence of structure: How does the social sphere mold, manipulate, and use the ideal typifications of actors for desired ends?

The second of these in particular — structural influences manipulating and reformulating ideal typifications — is properly within the domain of urban geography first, if a social sciences disciplinarian is to be identified as such. If the result of the manipulation of spatial ideal types has peculiarly urban consequences. Several subsidiary questions arise directly from this problem statement:

1. What are the principal elements of symbolism and imagery drawn upon in the manipulation of ideal typifications? Are these elements more in the present, amidst the cacophony of claims, there seems to be little common ground among competing philosophies.
2. What are the institutional channels through which formation of spatial ideal types is manipulated?
3. How are these institutional channels related to broader institutional formations?
4. What are the values, goals, and motives of the institutional channels and their structural base?

A paramount concern is to focus attention throughout on uncovering the mechanisms linking the social structural base to urban spatial structure as end product. An overwhelming fascination with structure per se fails to illuminate the process through which structural dictation is translated to and absorbed by the individual actor: we have gained little if we simply replace "economic man" with "class-interest man" and "profit maximization" with "goals and motives of the institutional channels and their structural base.

David Ley (U. of British Columbia)

Human geography has shown increasing pluralism in the past decade, and while this has some dangers, it is a trend which should be encouraged, for the healthy discipline is innovative and experimental, aware and respectful of traditions, but not restricted by them and not allowing past scholarship to dominate the shape of current work. The twentieth century is not only one of conflicts, but also of synthesis, and the discipline's changing face has been influenced by analytical perspectives. While some excellent analytical work has been completed, it is often beset by two weaknesses. First, the discipline has lost its distinctive methodological identity, for the variable use of objective analysis of process commonly carries explanations toward neighboring disciplines at the expense of the integrative core of geography. Second, analysis often fragments what is integrated in everyday life. It decontextualizes, and in its most damaging form leads to reductionism and abstract empiricism.

These weaknesses make the more interesting a nowfound commitment to synthesis is the social sciences, whether a return to classical figures like Weber or Marx, a concern with modern writers like Giddens or Habermas, or discovery of schools like the Annals school among French historians. These trends are particularly appropriate for human geography in terms of its traditional integrative focus, and the real prospects for convergence and a
new synthesis which exist in the discipline itself. The empirical rigor of positivism, the
theoretical attentiveness of those who have explored both radical and nonmedical social
theory, the presuppositional emphasis of a growing philosophical awareness, and a focus on
the human experience of place espoused by humanists, together suggest the ingredients for
a new, not necessarily rival, but complementary, constellation of inquiry and scholarship.
This is not to claim that integration may be achieved by some facile conflation of perspec-
tives, for the issues are more subtle than this. Nonetheless, many of the components of
what a recent volume has called a search for common ground are now in place.

Risa Palm (U. of Colorado)

Two extreme positions on the nature of explanation in urban geography have resulted not
only in different methods but also different subject-matter emphasis. On the one hand,
there are those who argue that explanation lies largely in an understanding of the over-
arching mechanisms within the political, economic, and social structures. This perspective
emphasizes structures emanating from the top of a hierarchy of power and influence down to
the individual level. What is studied is the influence of the political-economic system
which encapsulates and constrains individual choice. Research in this field includes the
interactions with the physical/social/cultural environment on morbidity and mortality; similarly, the urban geographer interested in the distribution of criminal behavior cannot afford to overlook various environmental influences on the propensity to be either victim or perpetrator. It is only safe to invoke the traditional organization school,
formally dominated by logical positivist research, predominated during the
the formative period of modern urban geography (the late 1950s through the early 1970s), most
research has been done on questions of distribution and location rather than environmental
interactions.

If one can accept this summary of research traditions (Table 1), and if one also accepts
that greatest progress in any field can be made at a "frontier" (generally a sparsely
populated and unexplored location connected to the activity of previous explorers and
settlers), then it seems obvious that there are safe, secondary, or even exciting areas in
which research can take place, and also areas in which both the risks and the potential
pay-offs are greater. In this particular table, the central cells, where micro- and macro-
level explanations may be confounded, contain the most opportunities for exciting research
developments. In addition, since few urban geographers have ventured into the territory
of human-environmental interactions, it would appear that the central cells in the second row
are especially promising. I would be hard-pressed to argue that there is any area within
urban geography which is so well understood that no new research is needed, but I would
assert that we have had relatively large numbers of studies of individual decision-making
concerning both spatial organization (firm location, migration decision-making) and certain
types of human-environmental interactions (individual response to natural hazards).

Similarly, I find it hard to justify much more effort on the overall role of the
political economy that are not firmly empirically grounded in studies of the development
of specific regional organization, urban development, or the evaluation and use of
environmental resources. Instead, research should focus on one or more of the four central cells:
the conflicts between individual and group utility functions in spatial or environmental
decision-making, and the cultural and historical factors within the political economy
which account for the particular realizations in a given setting and time. Spatial and environ-
mental questions raised at the micro- and macro-level approaches coalescence are not only of interest in themselves, but also promise to lead us to more
complete understandings of our urban environment.

Table 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Each cell contains examples of some research topics</th>
<th>Micro</th>
<th>Cultural/historical circumstances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What geographic question is addressed?</td>
<td>Rational individuals in irrational settings</td>
<td>Political-economic determination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spatial organization</td>
<td>Urban managers vs. households in migration decision-making</td>
<td>Analysis of urban structure as an expression of decisions by industry in conflict and extraction of profits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examples: Location decisions at a regional or local level</td>
<td>Conflict between residential groups and planners' goals</td>
<td>Evaluation and use of the environment by various political economic organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Environment</td>
<td>Household or individual response to natural hazards</td>
<td>Susceptibility to hazards based on combination of resources and position in political economic complex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examples: Natural hazards, technological hazards, cultural-social hazards (e.g., ecology of crime)</td>
<td>Conflict between individual short term responses and corporate state response to environmental conditions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Research Priorities (cont.)

James Vance (U. of California)

Today I wish to take the topic of this roundtable discussion in a most literal sense: to look at how urban frontiers affect the functioning of urban and exurban economies. It is my belief that the role of the frontier in shaping past urban life is greater than commonly appreciated, and I have a strong hunch that it will be particularly important for the next several decades.

To start with some attention, it is useful to establish that the times of radical change in urban life and morphology have come when the frontiers of the city have been fundamentally expanded. The Age of Discovery greatly transformed the traditional structure of urban society. But even through the very large and successful ports across vast oceans, at the same time forcing increasingly larger formal and structural areas into subservience to them. The great commercial metropolitan grew out of this shift of frontiers, creating for their enlarged versions of earlier places within the same urban area. The resulting urban core city housed particularly dock and wholesaling activities, though increasingly the fabrication of products from their rising colonial trade in raw materials, and the residences of those employed in the city. So long as that strongly mercantile economy persisted, urbanization, the the marked domination by maritime and potamic transportation routes starting the distant frontiers of trade and forcing a tight clustering on the morphology of the city.

The morphological frontier of the traditional core city remained close and confining until human improvements in urban routes began to take shape about the middle of the last century. Particularly with railroads available the traditional urban frontier could be breached and a new area of urbanization pioneered with the foundation of industrial satellite, in which the expanding demand for goods in distant trade and local consumption could be satisfied, and residential suburbs, in which the middle and upper classes could seek a more healthful and culturally-assimilated environment. The suburban band became the most dynamic element in cities more than a hundred years, the place where that distinctive American contribution to urban morphology, the suburb, took shape, and the site for the major part of people the city and added industrial to the earlier mercantile capital clustered there. The suburban frontier was first reached by railroads a hundred years ago but was filled out by easily ramified trolley lines for the succeeding third of a century up to the First World War, and the new academic provided the main body of internal urban movement, the suburban band sufficed for urban pioneering, and the city's frontier was formed of suburbs and satellites. But by the 1930s there was restlessness showing. The automobile and truck gave individuality to movement, so the suburban frontier could be pushed radically outward, though without great functional or morphological change. So great was the area expansion of the suburban band that frontiers internal to the city began to emerge dividing urban space into regions of daily activity less comprehensive than the full metropolis. Urban realms became a mode of the city, whereas its morphology remained divided between the traditional core and the now expanded suburban band.

By about 1960 new concepts of urban functional geography began to be expressed on the land, mostly as movements beyond the suburban centers. With sharply increased individual mobility, the concept of traditional urbanization could be applied to future growth. The resulting physical pattern was that of an exurban band, essentially a third major component of a functional model for the city. For the doctrine, the dispersed exurban existence in the true open country is those less extreme in their rejection of urban morphology, the small-town compromise could be adopted. Just as the suburban band had satellites as well as suburbs, the exurban band now has dispersed sites for economic activity (research facilities, even factories, and the warehousing of those) as those of the leaders are. The current field of the exurban revolution. One may now live and work in exurbs, though it seems probable that urban realms will arise there dividing the exurban band into daily activity areas. Some of these will be together the complexity of morphologies found in the suburban and exurban bands by sharing a large part of which is without traditional urbanization.

In closing, I would like to suggest that the next generation of urban geography might find it interesting to examine urban frontiers in general, and perhaps particularly those in the city beyond the suburban frontier.

Roger Zanarini (Upland Industries)

My number one priority for urban geography research could be characterized as an increased emphasis on "financial realities". The world of finance is rarely reflected in contemporary urban geography research. From a private sector perspective, research is viewed as a commodity. The key question then becomes, who is the customer, the consumer, if you will? Who will use the product? Peter Drucker says that after you answer that question, nothing else matters. One group of potential users of urban geography research is composed of corporate leaders who are rapidly changing the design of American cities. These individuals see themselves as developers, lenders, or builders, and as an important segment of society who might utilize our research findings. What impact does urban geography have on these decision-makers? I can't venture a guess, but probably not much. The current published research reveals a basic lack of understanding of the business world. Capital is a key component and knowledge of the capital market is useful. If we wish to influence urban planners, the literature should reflect a real world approach. Thus, in my opinion, research in the area of finance, especially risk analysis, should be a priority for urban geographers. An excellent case study is located a few blocks away right here in Denver. The Tabor Center at 16th and Lawrence, a mixed-use center featuring proven performers such as the Troupe Co. and the Williams Corp. of Tulsa, went to the stroke of midnight before finalizing definite interim financing arrangements. The entire $300 million deal was in jeopardy due to a perceived risk factor assessed by the lenders. Creative financing and effective cash management have become almost as important as "location-location-location" helping to solve market-derived problems.

Is this an acceptable arena for urban geographers? Is this even a Geographic problem? Again, I have no answers. What I can say is that the business community needs and appreciates quality research. You can help identify the problems and define how to capitalize on the opportunities available to the private sector. Meanwhile, when drawing your conclusions and forming recommendations, "cast out" your alternatives. Too often results are uncompetitive or otherwise unacceptable. The term "bottom line" is a cliché to be avoided, but its use connotes recognition of how to succeed, which translates as profit. There is no other way.

This is a plea to add a financial component to the urban geographer's research agenda. If we expect to reach our target group, an applied focus is mandatory. Until this is accomplished, the business-world audience for our research results will continue to be sparse. Let's also remember a by-product of superior research, and that is better students, which leads to better-qualified graduates in our discipline. If visibility for geographic is desirable, meaningful research for the private sector will help us meet our objectives. As our AAG President recently stated, "We must become more concerned about the public representation of our discipline — the status of geography in the American mind."

Is this yours?

Half of your town belongs to you.

If you think all you own is the small plot of land on which your house is built...
You couldn't be more wrong.

You own more than half your town
You own the streets, the plowed streets and the free-lined pathways....

This illustration is from The Western Planner (April 1962). Assist is a private, nonprofit group in Salt Lake City, Utah. (Submitted by Andrea Hauer (Iowa City, IA).)