

THE HISTORY OF PLANNING: PART II

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Introduction

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- The period between 1920 to the present has experienced enormous social, political, and technological changes.
- The soviet union broke up in 1989 to end the cold war and the events there after were planned against this background.

Planning and the Great Depression

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- After 1930's the planning took a new shape.
- Planning is a term which deals from minor land issues to large centralized planning.
- A number of planning initiatives were taken in the period of economic crisis (in 1930's).

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Planning and the Great Depression conti..

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- Federal funding of local and state planning is one initiative which still exists among those initiatives taken in 1930's.
- By 1936 every state except one had a planning board of their own.
- The primary focus of these boards was on agriculture and urban planning.

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Planning and the Great Depression conti..

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- Federal Government started the idea of Low-cost housing.
- Then the Supreme Court forced the Government to change the decision of providing financial support instead of building houses.
- Today there are over 1 million public housing units and several million privately owned houses.

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Planning and the Great Depression conti..

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- The depression era saw the beginning of many regional planning efforts one of them was the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA).
- The TVA served the purpose of flood control, industrialization in the valley.
- Other initiatives were the New England Regional Commission, the Colorado River Basin Compact and the like.

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The Post-War Period

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- Post war planning took place in a conservative framework.
- The major planning was done with the help of federal, state and local effort.
- Later on in 1980s and 1990s Europeans resembled American model of planning.

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The Expansion of Municipal Planning

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- The postwar period saw greater amounts of planning activity at the city, town, and country level.
- Municipalities had more funds due to the prosperity to spend on planning.
- The growth of local planning was also in the minds of federal government.

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Urban Renewal

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- The first major initiative after the war was 'Urban Renewal' or 'Urban Redevelopment'.
- The 1949 Housing Act allowed the cities to compete with the outlying (suburban) areas.
- Urban renewal at the end became a slum clearance and housing program.

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Urban Renewal conti...

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- By 1973 when Urban renewal came to an end, some \$13 billion of federal funds were expended (used).
- A number of households were relocated that caused them very high human costs.

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The Age of Highway Planning

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- Another major plan in the Federal Government's agenda was Highway planning and building.

- The suburbanization of population increased the demand for more automobiles which in turn prompted highway development.

- Probably the best known is the Chicago Area Transportation Study (CATS).

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The Age of Highway Planning

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- The highway construction didn't start until the National Defense Highway act was passed in 1956.

- By 1980, almost the full nation was very well connected with immense highways.

- About 40,000 miles of highway development reshaped the nation in the post Second World war era.

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Environmental Planning

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- The environmental planning gained importance because of the increasing population.
- An increase in population means more automobiles and hence more smoke emission.
- Pollutions are of many kind, it could an air pollution, a water pollution, noise pollution and so on.
- To avoid this growing risks many acts were introduced.

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Environmental Planning conti...

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- Famous among them is the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
- The field of environmental planning expanded with the growing concern.

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Environmental Planning conti...

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- The energy planning was also in the agenda of the Environmental act.
- Till 1980s U.S. took interest in energy planning and after that they were dependent oil from Middle East for energy consumption.
- Once the oil prices increased to \$100 per barrel in 2007, U.S. started to look back into the energy planning for political and national security reasons.

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Growth Control and Growth Management

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- In 1960s the area of growth control and growth management emerged as a distinct area of planning.
- It became a matter of legal and moral controversy since population was controlled along with reducing environmental pollution.
- Zero Population Growth was an important movement.

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The Growth of Statewide Planning

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- Statewide planning evolved during 1960s.
- It was another aspect besides local planning efforts.
- A number of state planning processes are discussed in the later chapters.

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Economic Development Planning

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- The Economic development was the major concern as the population had a massive increase.
- The unemployment increased and the only way to stop it was by creating jobs.
- Monetary and economic policies got introduced to tackle these issues.

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Economic Development Planning conti...

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- The terms pockets of poverty and structural unemployment were often used.
- Due to political reasons, a little was done for economic development.
- But economic development planning increased during 1990s and the states developed economically.

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Planning for Smart Growth

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- In mid 1990s, Maryland invented the term smart growth to describe the state development plan.
- The growth of population increased traffic congestion and thus the problems associated with sprawl became important.
- Chapter 14 talks more about sprawl and smart growth.

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Planning and Public Safety

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- The need for safety was an important force behind the development of cities.

- But slowly they became targets of nuclear attacks and the idea to disperse the population never worked.

- U.S. and Soviet union during the cold war threatened to target the major cities.

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Planning and Public Safety conti...

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- Post 9/11, the pattern of development and safety was back in the U.S. agenda.

- The security concerns there after increased with the creation of barriers to separate cars coming close to buildings in urban areas.

- The first skyscraper to be built after sep 11, 2001 has a concrete core rather than a steel core.

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Planning and Public Safety conti...

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- It also has an extra fireproofing, pressurized stair cases to keep the smoke out.
- The point to be noted is whether the firms are going to stick with sky scrapers or opt for smaller establishments to avoid risks of attacks.

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Planning for Natural Catastrophe

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- The natural disasters have existed in the histories of many cities.
- Hurricane Katrina of 2005 was of such a magnitude challenging the natural disaster mitigation efforts.
- The economic effect upon the entire region around New Orleans needs to be looked upon seriously.

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Planning for Natural Catastrophe conti...

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- There are a mass of social planning issues involving poverty, housing, and education.
- There are questions whether more good work would be done for the poor.
- The history of planning in America thus gives an insight into the planning activities that took place for last 80 years.

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Thank You

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