

ABSTRACT

VÁNYOLÓS, Endre: Modern Space Stories from Eastern-Europe 3

Locality is a scene of the timeless history of a city. At its points, the fate of individuals and communities, their histories and the memories of public spaces overlay in time and space. The public spaces of a city are about the bond with the locality, alienation and identity.

The public spaces of a former regime do not disappear, only change. Change tends to be slower, more sophisticated and complicated than the metamorphosis of individual buildings; it is determined by not only the characteristics of buildings, but also by the manifold relations between them and the city and its environment as a whole.

One of the most important aspects of the analysis is the way a building is adapted to our architectural, geographical, cultural, and historical environment, but the place and time of its construction, its size, its community function, shape, the public buildings nearby, and its systematization according to bordering surfaces are also important factors. These specific characteristics turn a scene into a locality. The borders of a space fundamentally influence and define its atmosphere and characteristics, the possibilities inherent in it.

PÉTER, László: Whose Space? Sociological Discourse Analysis on the Transformation of Main Square in Cluj/Kolozsvár 17

This article can be defined as a sociological attempt to trace the social discourses on the Main Square in Cluj/Kolozsvár based on written articles published by two local Hungarian newspapers. Basing himself on both qualitative and quantitative empirical data analysis techniques, the author states that the „Square issue” became a real ethnic problem for the majority of local ethnic Hungarians right after the reorganization process started in 2006. As a result, several types of discourses arose. Among them are: the radical anti-transformation discourse, specific to old citizens and conservative intelligentsia, the youth-based pro-modernist discourse and the professional discourse. Accordingly, Péter finds that there are several images and symbols attached to the Main Square as well as to Cluj/Kolozsvár.

GYÖRGY V., Imola: The Symbolic Ownership of Space in Marosvásárhely 40

The aim of collective memory is to keep links to the past alive and preserve the identity of a given social group. A local community creates places of remembrance, sets up memorials, organizes events, and produces discourses, as, in our case, the Hungarian-speaking population of Marosvásárhely has focused on

the mythical figure of György Bernády, mayor of the town at the beginning of the 20th century. Through such activity, a community determines its own time-space borders, and fashions its own local collective identity. These actions reinforce their bonds to symbolically occupied spaces, and create the illusion of possessing the space, leading in many cases to rivalry between the different ethnic communities living together. This brings about a kind of parallel existence between the ethnic communities, sometimes involving complementary worlds and an equal symbolic occupation of space, sometimes rival worlds and competing identities.

VAJDA, Barnabás: Place of Remembrance: Mayday Square 54

The study analyses the characteristics of using city space in the communist era in a Hungarian town, Dunaszerdahely (Dunajská Streda) in (Czecho-) Slovakia. During the communist era, Mayday Square (Május 1. tér) and the János Nagy Memorial in it provided the public space for official cult celebrations. But the local people never took to liking the sculpture, because it failed to epitomize any significant aspect of local historical memory. Instead, Mayday Square came to be part of the ideological organization of the space characteristic of the communist era. It embodied typical Socialist Realist power concentrating all the important buildings of the political leadership in or near it. This Czechoslovak ideological tendentiousness became all the more obvious after the long decades of Soviet-type celebrations, when the Hungarian element returned to town life.

SZAKÁLY, Tamás: Ports 70

This study is part of a wider investigation analyzing mainly the urban history of District VII of Budapest, known in everyday parlance as the „Jewish Quarter”. Although it examines a smaller unit, which cannot be regarded as a Jewish quarter, it puts the area into a Jewish-historical perspective, investigating the main trends of the Jewish assimilation, the characteristics of the polarization of Jews living in the district and the relationship between them and Hungarian or, rather, German city dwellers, providing a background for social and economic analysis, which are able to show the processes and different forces still shaping the history and fate of the district.

DEMETER, Csanád: Urbanization Attempts in the Underdeveloped Regions of Székely Land 83

In the more underdeveloped regions of Székely Land (Hargita [Harghita] and Covasna [Kovászna] counties, Romania) there was a significant attempt at modernization from the end of the 60s, based not only on investment projects, but on socialist urbanization, as well. Although this process was not as comprehensive as in some other industrial centres of the country, but it still

enabled some of these settlements to develop. New towns emerged, which, otherwise, could not have gained urban status, because they did not have the institutional, demographical and infrastructural conditions necessary for becoming a city.

Today, almost all these „artificially created” towns are undergoing a crisis, industrial investment projects having ceased and ruralization replacing urbanization after 1989.

VIZI, György: Co-operation of Builders’ Vocational Schools in the Carpathian Basin in Familiarizing Built Heritage 104

When it comes to monument protection, it is not only state agencies and professionals that have a role, but also craftsmen working on restoring historic buildings. In Central-East Europe, Hungary is the only country to provide education on monument protection at vocational-school level. Yet the built heritage of the entire Carpathian Basin represents a unified picture.

The study shows the place of monument protection in builders’ vocational schools in Hungary, Slovakia, Serbia, and Romania. It emphasizes the need for cooperation between Hungarian-language vocational schools, and also presents its achievements so far.

SEBESTYÉN, József: The Documentation of the Built Heritage of the Settlements with a Hungarian Population in the Carpathian Basin (1996–2009) 117

The Teleki László Foundation, the Siebenbürgisch-Sächsischer Kulturrat and a civil association for the protection of monuments in Sepsiszentgyörgy (Sfântu Gheorghe) jointly drafted an inventory project and applied for EU funding in 1996, which the European Commission granted.

At first, data collection, photographing and surveying the local architectural and movable heritage ecclesiastic heritage, was carried out for 19 settlements in a small region of Székely Land (Erdővidék) in 1997, then it included another 44 in the Nyárád (Niraj) Valley in 1998 and 1999.

During the fieldwork, it became clear that there were many significant monuments which had been forgotten and thus unrecorded in the Carpathian Basin. The database is immensely important for policy makers and public administration, municipalities, NGOs and for owners, as well, because it provides them with information on how cultural heritage should be protected. In our time, society needs to have easy access to not only economic and business information, but also information about cultural heritage, because it has a huge impact on the development of a region even though it does not produce direct profit.

Review

- SEBESTYÉN, József: *Disordered Thoughts in the Wake of Lost Time*
 Fekete Zsolt: *Az idő fényképe / The Photograph of Time*, Méry Ratio Kiadó,
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