

discussion of the role of the antiquarian in preserving and presenting the past. It also records the contribution of antiquarians to the modern methodology and practice of disciplines like archaeology.

JOHN PRIVILEGE

*Centre for the History of Medicine in Ireland, University of Ulster*

PORTRAITS OF THE CITY: DUBLIN AND THE WIDER WORLD. Edited by Gillian O'Brien and Finola O'Kane. Pp 256. Dublin: Four Courts Press. 2012. €50.

This book originated in a project at the U.C.D. School of Architecture to study a number of areas in Dublin 'which have a particular character', with a view to determining how they had changed over time and the potential impact for better or worse of future development. While Dublin is the subject of almost half the papers in this volume, the geographical span extends to Baghdad, Jerusalem, four U.S. cities, plus Lisbon and London. The editors describe the volume, the outcome of a conference in 2010, as 'a comparative portrait of cities'.

Several essays concentrate on visual material, such as maps and paintings of urban landscapes. While the maps and paintings of Jerusalem, discussed by Naomi Miller – often done by artists who had never visited the city – were generally 'created out of piety', Jeffrey Cohen claims that the streetscapes included in nineteenth-century city directories had a primarily commercial purpose – to attract shoppers or tourists wishing to experience the luxury of the Champs Elysée or the Nevsky Prospekt. Martha McNamara suggests that the lithographs of nineteenth-century Boston that 'clearly expressed the elite and middle-class interest in promoting New England as a pastoral idyll despite the region's social and economic transformations'. Yet many of these images 'rupture and destabilize' this pastoral image, by including immigrants, blacks and poor working figures in scenes dominated by wealth and leisure. A rather different form of visual iconography features in Dell Upton's essay on Birmingham, Alabama's Civil Rights district where a city-centre park has been transformed into a memorial to the Civil Rights campaign with a Freedom Walk and realistic sculptures depicting key episodes in the campaign; the project formed part of a major urban redevelopment.

Several contributions highlight the fact many urban developments have involved the obliteration of the vernacular streetscapes and the relegation of tradesmen and their workshops to back streets; this was a characteristic common to the redevelopment of Lisbon after the 1755 earthquake, Dublin's Gardiner estate and the redevelopment of eighteenth century London – discussed in essays by Joan Cunha Leal, F. M. Dodsworth, Merlo Kelly, and Conor Lucey. The contrast between a planned development and a more organic urban space is a central theme in Augustina Martire's analysis of urban waterfronts in an essay that examines Ringsend/Irishtown, the adjoining developments carried out by the Dublin Docklands Authority and recent waterfront developments in Barcelona and other cities.

Politics looms large in this book, especially the extent to which property development was dependent on political influence. Stephen Daniels and Finola O'Kane's essay on M. F. Trench and F. W. Trench, discusses a family who was prominent in public architecture in Dublin and London. M. F. Trench was a member of the committee that oversaw Gandon's building of the House of Lords. After the Union he bought some of the columns from the Irish House of Parliament and shipped them to his demesne at Heywood in Queen's County. The family's business moved to London after the Union, where his son, F. W. Trench, established himself as a 'landscape projector', thanks to the patronage of the Rutland family; he served as M.P. for Cambridge, then a 'rotten borough' under their control. F. W. Trench's most ambitious project was a mile-long

embankment along the Thames, funded by private subscriptions and a parliamentary subsidy – which never came to fruition. This is by no means the only project featured in this book that never materialised. The Royal Circus – the most ambitious scheme planned by the second Luke Gardiner, another man who made excellent use of political connections (discussed in essays by Merlo Kelly and Conor Lucey) – remained on Dublin's directory maps for nearly forty years. The site was eventually occupied by the Mater Hospital. Gardiner was a prominent member of the Wide Streets Commissioners, who frequently chaired meetings of the commission in his home. Some schemes on the Gardiner estate were carried out under the auspices of the commission, while others were private developments. Kelly claims that the minutes record several instances where Gardiner promoted schemes that were in his personal interest. Gardiner developed his estate by leasing plots to 'small-scale builders and developers', who constructed houses within the broad parameters laid down in this lease – this was also the model followed by later Dublin developers, notably the Pembroke Estate. Some of those who took leases were speculators; Conor Lucey gives instances of sites being sold at a profit; and the speculative nature meant that streets often took many years to complete.

The close relationship between politics and property development was not limited to Dublin. The Boston suburb of Brookline, developed in the nineteenth century as a *rus in urbe* – separate from Boston. Brookline deliberately deployed landscape architecture as a mechanism to exclude less-desirable residents: insisting on wide avenues, large plots and linear parkways and vetoing Boston's characteristic triple-decker, three-family houses. Brookline was a partnership between Boston Brahmins, prominent architects, including Frederick Olmstead who relocated his practice in the town, and local railway companies. The town, which successfully fought off annexation frequently, described itself as the richest town in the U.S.A. Ellen Skeritt's essay on Chicago as Catholic space and Jeffrey Gurock's discussion of Forest Hills in New York City provide further evidence that few urban spaces have achieved their historic or current character at random. Dublin's Iveagh Markets, now cherished as part of the inner city's heritage, were much less popular when they originally opened because a ban was imposed on street trading in the Liberties.

It is unclear what lessons these historical studies might offer to contemporary developers. That they should ignore criticism that they were engaged in social engineering or the displacement of people and trades, and concentrate on achieving architectural elegance that will be admired by generations to come? Or, that they should reflect on the evidence that urban spaces are the outcome of complex and diverse agencies.

MARY E. DALY

*School of History and Archives, University College Dublin*

'SHE SAID SHE WAS IN THE FAMILY WAY': PREGNANCY AND INFANCY IN MODERN IRELAND.

Edited by Elaine Farrell. Pp xix, 247. London: Institute of Historical Research. 2012. £40 hardback.

This volume, which emanates from the proceedings of the 2010 Women's History Association of Ireland conference held in Belfast, is a welcome addition to the burgeoning fields of Irish social, medico-legal and cultural history. It follows a thematic sequence detailing prenatal, *in utero* and post-natal matters from medical, religious, social and cultural perspectives. It begins with Ann Daly and Sandra McEvoy's chapters that trace debates about contraception from the nineteenth to the twentieth century. The interplay evident in these chapters (they cite each other's) is