Rivers, Cities, Historical Interactions

Time 21 - 23 February 2013

Venue Internationales Begegnungszentrum der Wissenschaft (IBZ)
Amalienstraße 38, 80799 Munich

Conveners Martin Knoll (Darmstadt Technical University), Uwe Lübken (RCC), and Dieter Schott (Darmstadt Technical University)

Abstract The historical co-evolution of cities and rivers is a research topic that requires both an urban and an environmental perspective. Rivers have been essential to the foundation, growth, prosperity and development of many major cities around the world. At the same time, cities have considerably altered rivers and created their own hydraulic regimes. Focusing on cities in different world regions, this conference will explore city-river relations as an essential part of urban environmental history.
Thursday 21 February

17:00 – 17:15  Introduction
Introductory remarks by RCC director and conveners

17:15–18:45  Cities and their Watersheds I
Chair  Dieter Schott (Darmstadt Technical University)
Sabine Barles (Université Paris 1)
The Seine, a Parisian River? Imprints, Control and Dependencies, late 17th through 20th Centuries
Giacomo Parrinello (RCC/University of Siena)
Urban Sprawl and River Basin: A Methodological Exploration of the Po Valley

Friday 22 February

09:00–10:30  Cities and their Watersheds II
Chair  Sabine Dabringhaus (University of Freiburg)
Shirley Ye (Harvard University)
Local Rivers, Global City: Spatial Politics and the Making of Modern Shanghai
Vanessa Taylor (University of Greenwich)
Watershed Democracy or Ecological Hinterland? London and the Thames River Basin, 1960-89

10:30–11:00  Coffee break

11:00–13:00  Rivers Lost – Rivers Re-gained I
Chair  Dieter Schott (Darmstadt Technical University)
Donna Rilling (SUNY, Stony Brook)
Who Damned Mill Creek? Transforming a Nineteenth-Century Watercourse and its Neighborhood
Louise Nelson Dyble (Michigan Technological University)
Fate of the Calumet: Continuity and Confluence between Economic Policy and the Urban Environment
Geneviève Massard-Guilbaud (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris)
The City Whose Rivers Disappeared: Nantes, 1850-1950

13:00–14:00  Lunch break
14:00–15:30  **Rivers Lost – Rivers Re-gained II**

**Chair**
Elena Arnold (RCC/Ohio Wesleyan University)

David Stradling (University of Cincinnati)
*The New Cuyahoga: Straightening Cleveland’s Crooked River*

Harold Platt (Loyola University Chicago)
*“A Ridiculous Failure of Government”: The Chicago River in the Age of Ecology*

15:30–16:00  **Coffee break**

16:00–18:00  **River Management and Urban Strategies I**

**Chair**
Christof Mauch (RCC)

Christoph Bernhardt (IRS Erkner)
*Urbanising a River: Strasbourg and the Rhine in the Long 19th Century*

Daniel MacFarlane (Carleton University, Ottawa)
*Dam the Consequences: Montreal, Cornwall, and the St. Lawrence Seaway and Power Project*

Vladimir Sanchez (Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá)
*The Relationship between the Tunjuelo River and Bogotá (Colombia) during the 20th Century: Dams, Gravel and Flooding*

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**Saturday 23 February**

09:00–10:30  **River Management and Urban Strategies II**

**Chair**
Eva Jakobsson (RCC/University of Stavanger)

Carlos Gomez Florentin (SUNY, Stony Brook)
*Dammed City: Ciudad del Este, the Parana River and the Itaipu Dam (1957-1991)*

Dirk Schubert (HafenCity University Hamburg)
*From “Silent Spring” to Turbulent Future – Managing the River Elbe and the Requirements of the Open Tidal Seaport Hamburg*

10:30–11:00  **Coffee break**

11:00–13:00  **Making Sense of Rivers I**

**Chair**
Martin Knoll (Darmstadt Technical University)

Igor Chabrowski (European University Institute, Florence)
*Rivers as Prisms of Urban Imagining – Easter Sichuan Work Songs*

Michael Toyka-Seid (Darmstadt Technical University)
*Shared waters, Shared Conceptions? Two Rhine Cities on the Long and Winding Road to Urban Sustainable Development*

Agnes Kneitz (RCC)
13:00–14:00  Lunch break

14:00–16:00  Making Sense of Rivers II
Chair  Uwe Lübken (RCC)

Awadhendra Sharan (Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, Delhi)
The River Ganges as an Urban Sink: What Difference did Colonialism Make?

Guido Hausmann (Jena University)
Kiev and the Dnepr as a Socialist Urban Landscape (1930s-1970s)

Shelley Hornstein (York University)
Union is a Raging River, or Remembering Fez as the River Remembers

16:00–17:00  Final Discussion
Chairs  Martin Knoll, Uwe Lübken, and Dieter Schott

Registration  The workshop is free and open to the public, however registration is required. Please send an e-mail to events@carsoncenter.lmu.de to sign up.