An aerial photograph of a university campus, likely the University of Chicago, showing a dense grid of streets and buildings. The buildings are mostly brown and grey, with green spaces interspersed. The overall layout is highly organized and symmetrical.

The Neighborhood as an Ideal: Is it Still Relevant?

Emily Talen

University of Chicago

“Tailgating – The last great American neighborhood”

www.tailgating.com





QUARTER-SECTION OF LAND - THE CITY OF CHICAGO, ILL.



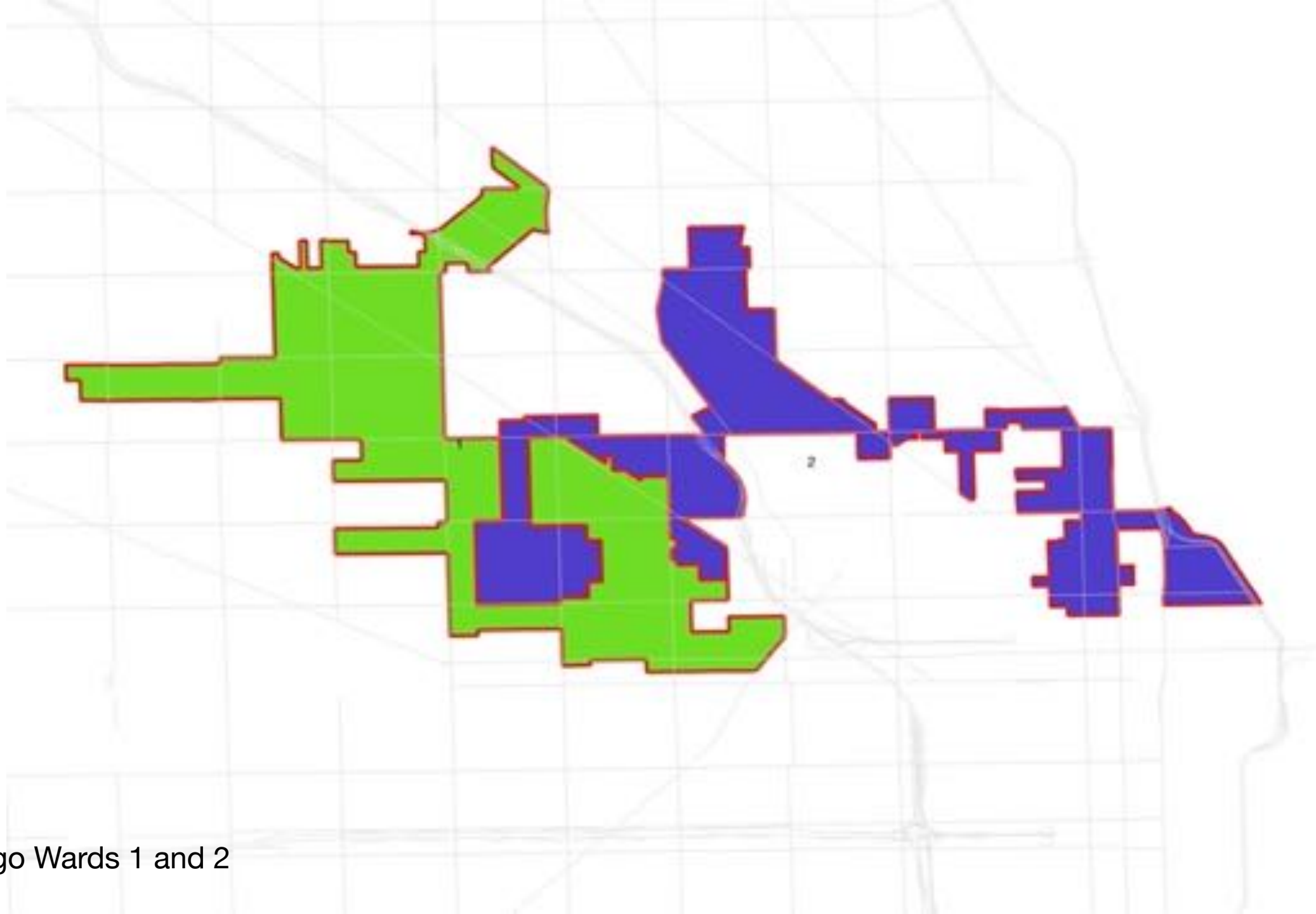
...S AND BEAUTY.

...RE AND MRS. INGRID LILJENBERG

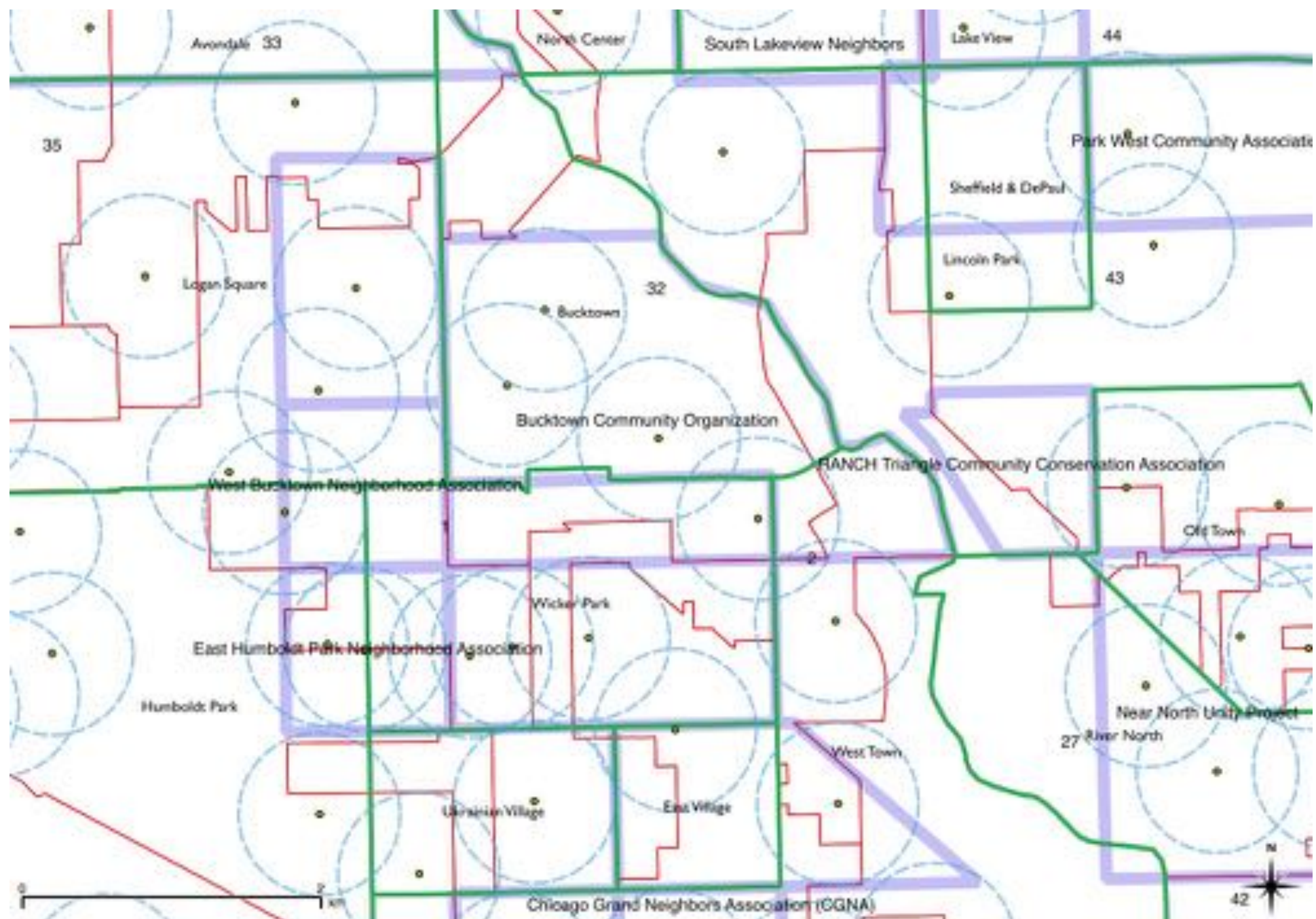
“Neighborhood is a word that has come to sound like a Valentine.”

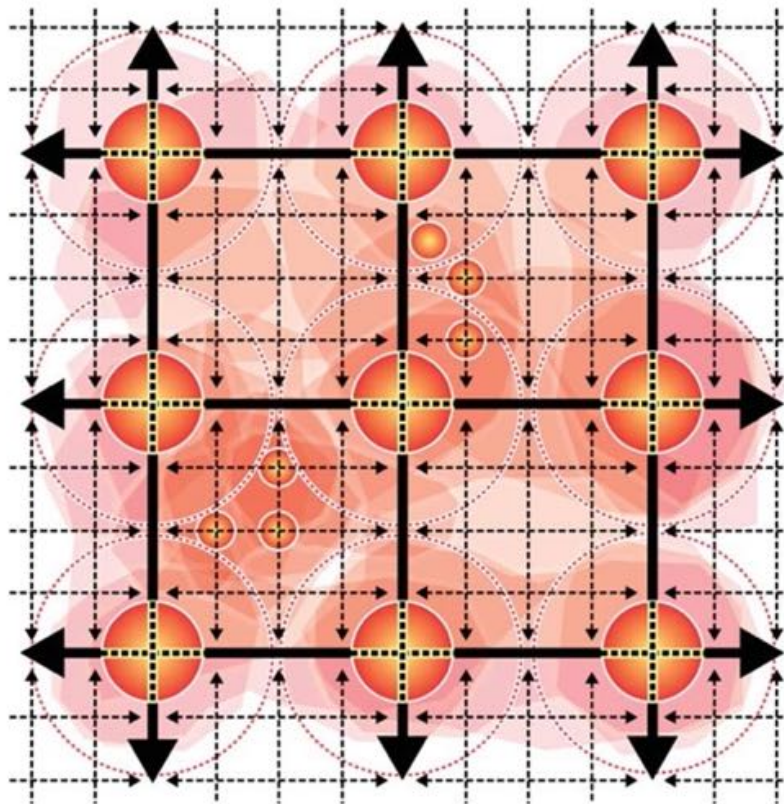
-- Jane Jacobs, 1961, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*





Chicago Wards 1 and 2



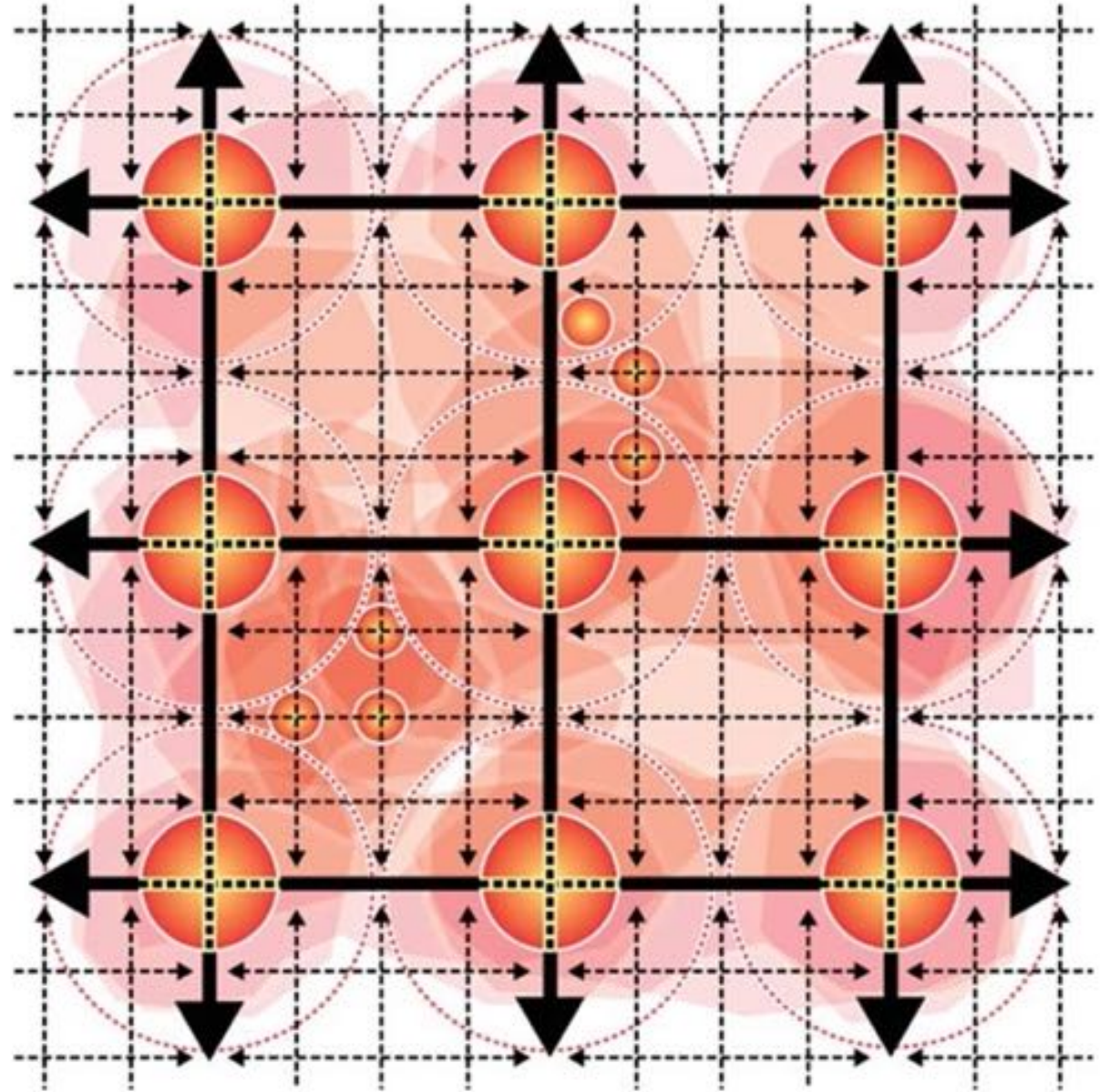


A neighborhood needs 3 things

Identity

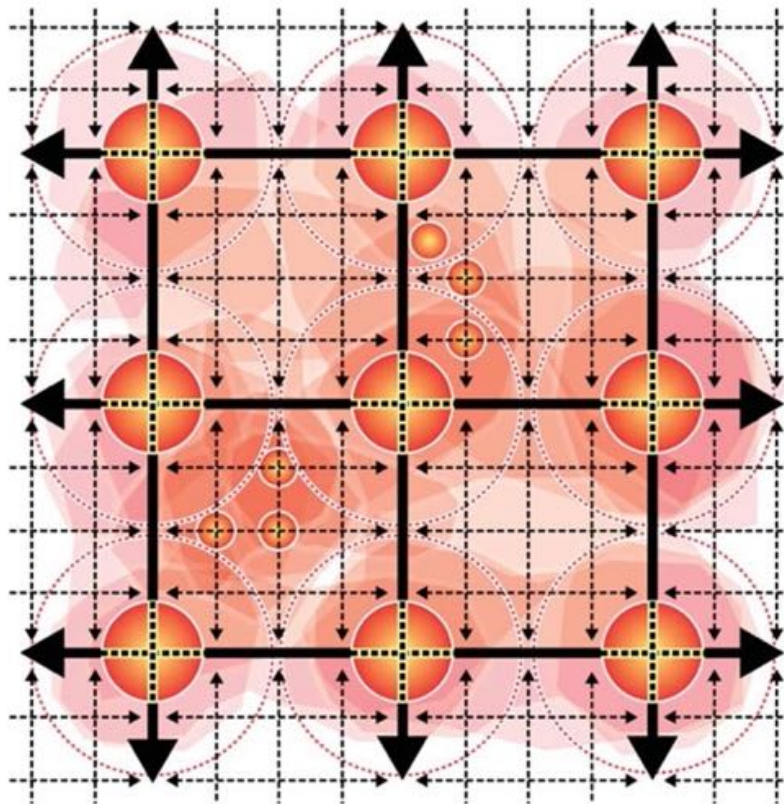


Connection



Collective Voice





A neighborhood needs 3 things



Why?

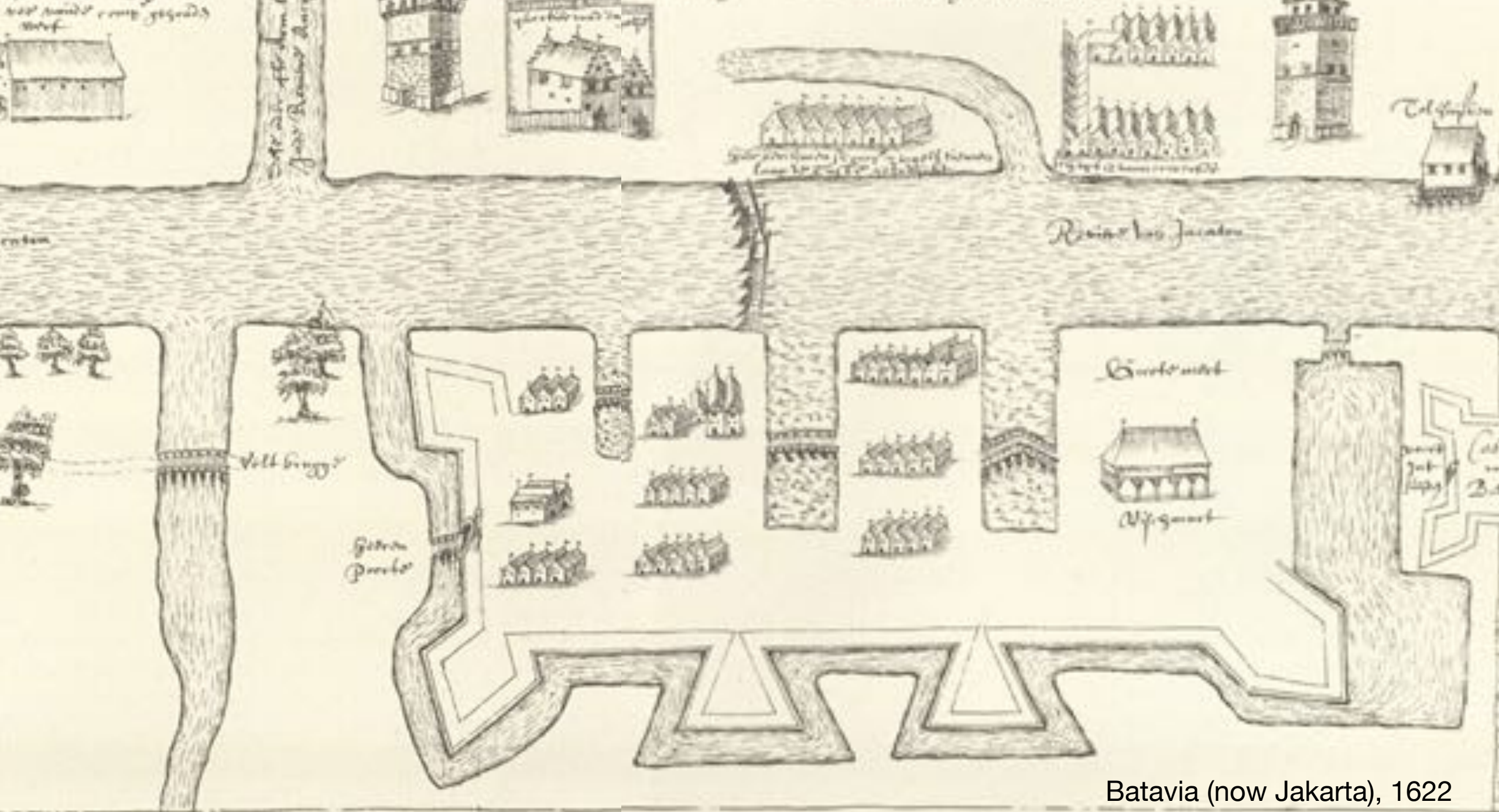
|



Neighborhood
History

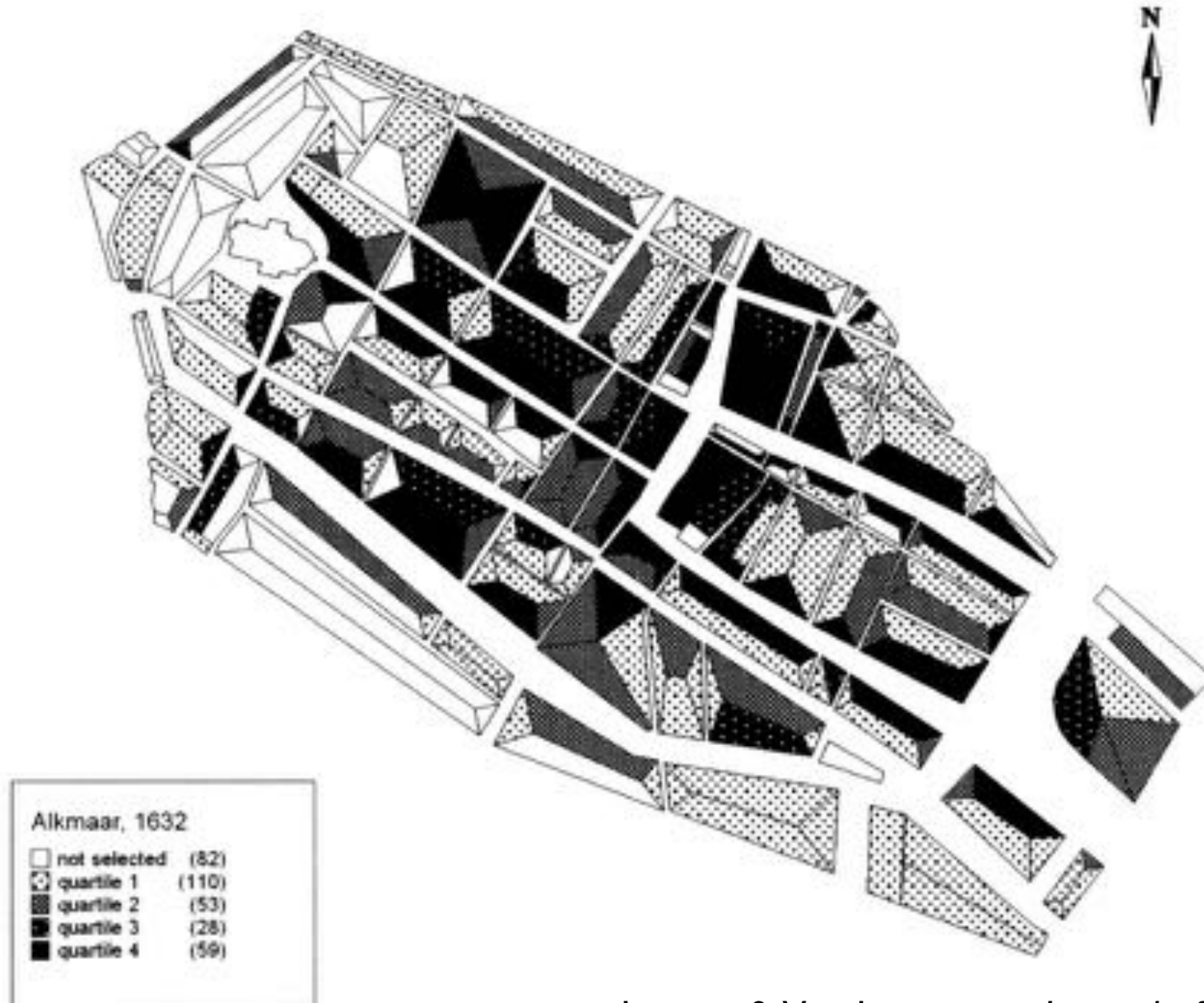


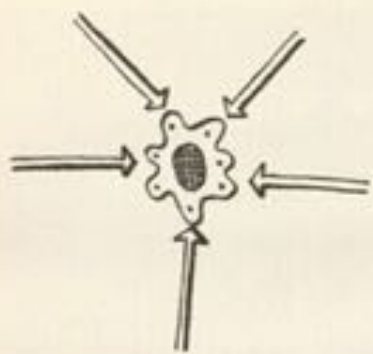
Neighborhood units in 8th century Chang'an, central China; Source: Heng Chye Kiang



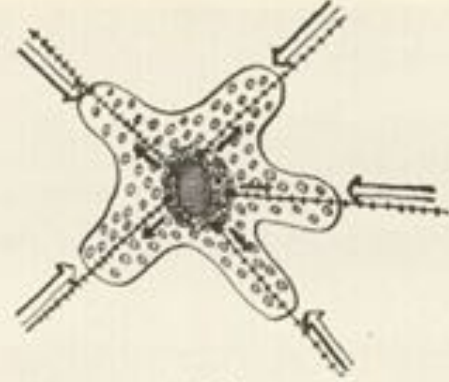
Batavia (now Jakarta), 1622

Fig 2 Average Rents per Block Face in Alkmaar, 1632

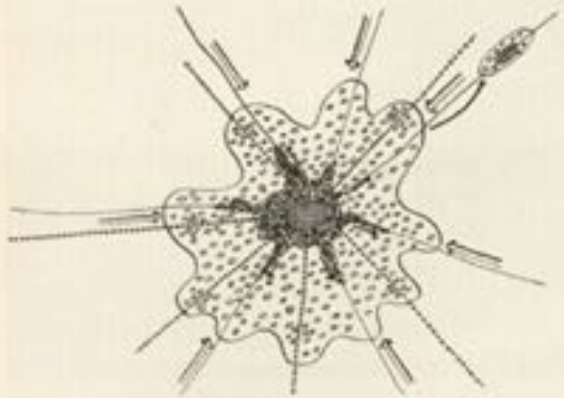




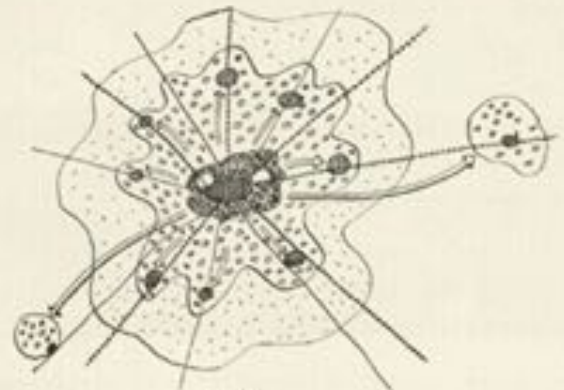
stage 1



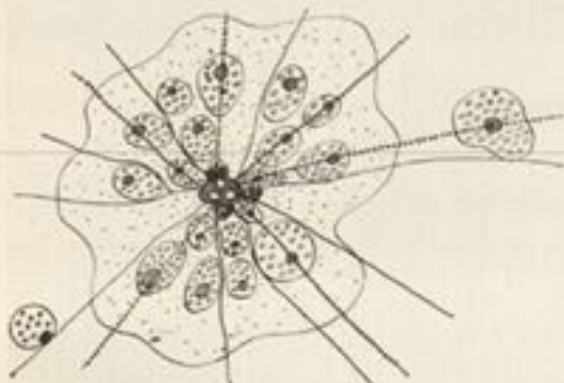
stage 2



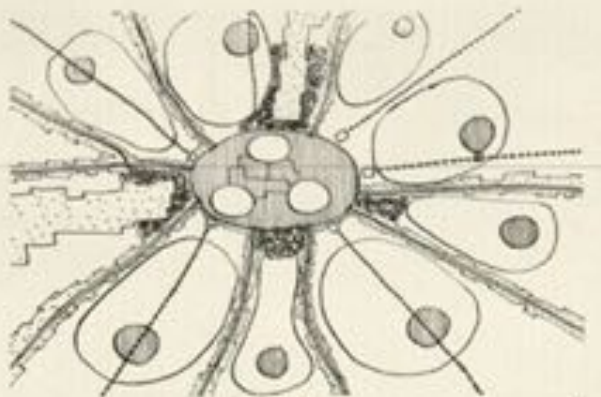
stage 3



stage 4



stage 5

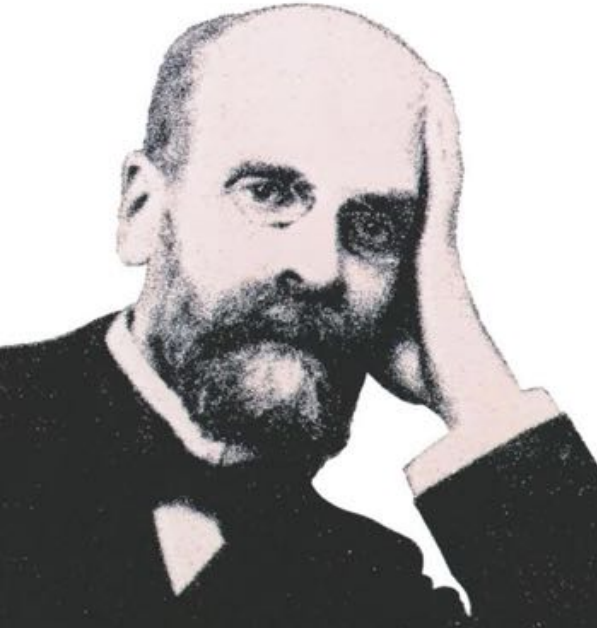


stage 6



EMILE DURKHEIM

His Life and Work
A Historical and Critical Study



◆ STEVEN LUKES ◆

GEORG SIMMEL

ON INDIVIDUALITY
AND SOCIAL FORMS

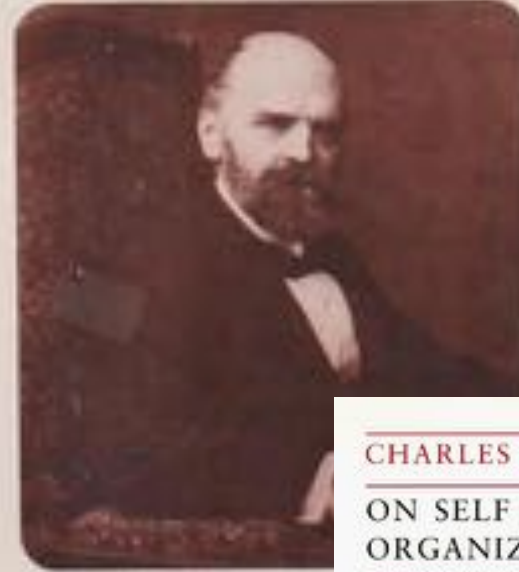


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DONALD N. LEVINE

The Heritage of Sociology

FERDINAND TOENNIES

ON SOCIOLOGY: PURE, APPLIED,
AND EMPIRICAL



Selected Writings, Edited and with
an Introduction by
WALTER J. CROSBY AND P.

PAGE 83-40

CHARLES HORTON COOLEY

ON SELF AND SOCIAL
ORGANIZATION

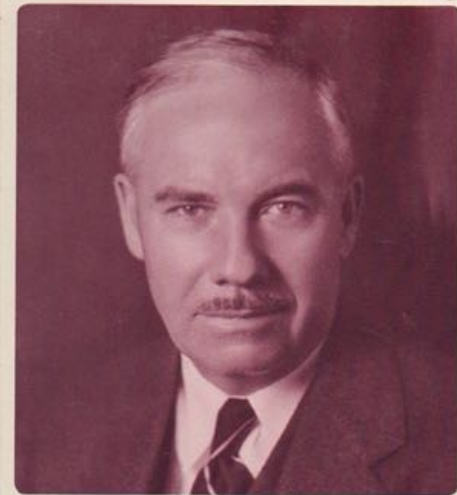


Edited and with an Introduction by
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THE HERITAGE OF SOCIOLOGY

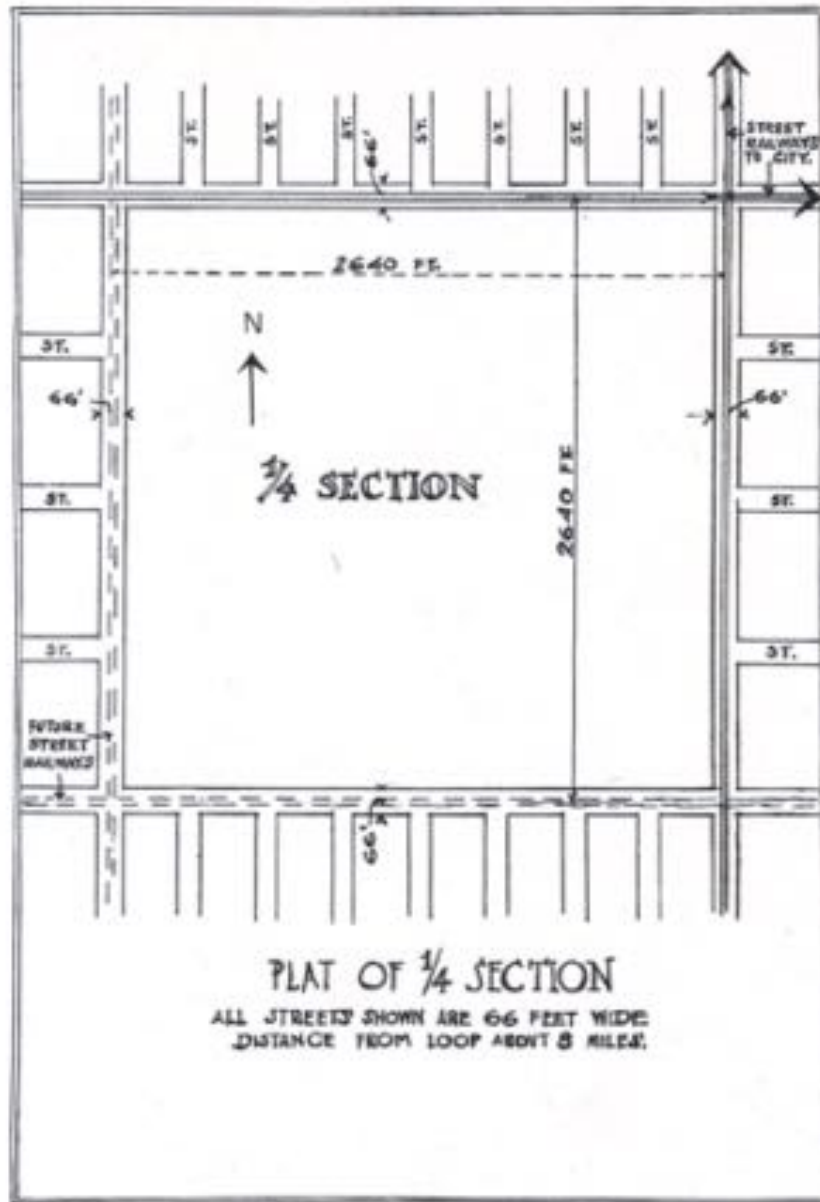
RODERICK D. MCKENZIE

ON HUMAN FORM



Edited and with an introduction by
AMOS H. HAWLEY

The Heritage of Sociology



PLAN OF A TYPICAL QUARTER SECTION IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF CHICAGO

The City Club of Chicago, neighborhood design contest, 1912



THIRD PRIZE PLAN BY ALBERT LOEHSBERG AND MRS. INGRID LOEHSBERG

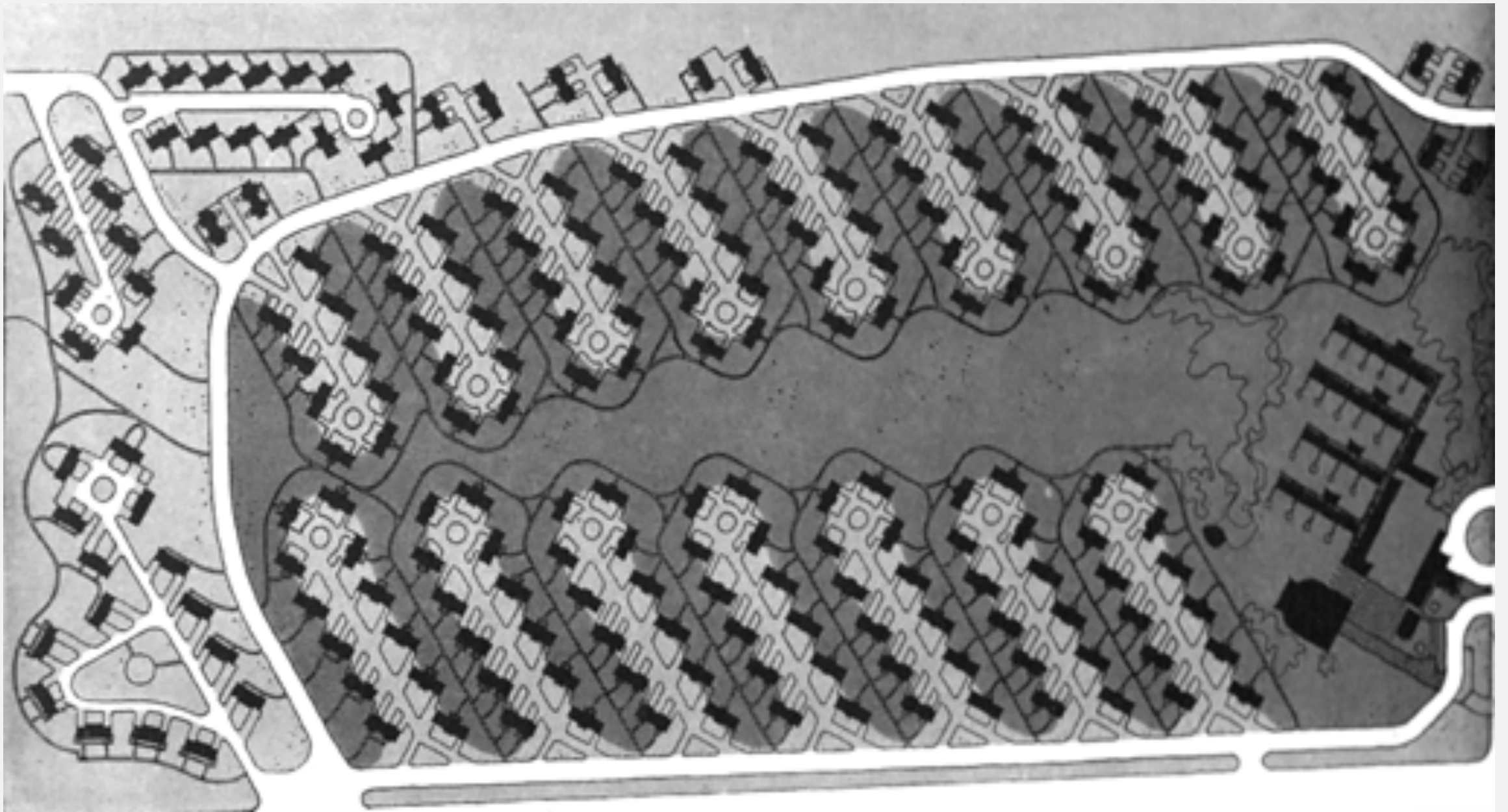
KEY TO PLAN

- | | | | |
|--|--|--------------------|-------------------|
| A. Field-house, room for lectures, festivities, etc. | C. School, Hospital or other public buildings. | E. Church. | F. Tennis Courts. |
| B. School. | D. Restaurant. | N. Athletic Field. | Q. Wading Pool. |
| | | O. Playground. | R. Swimming Pool. |

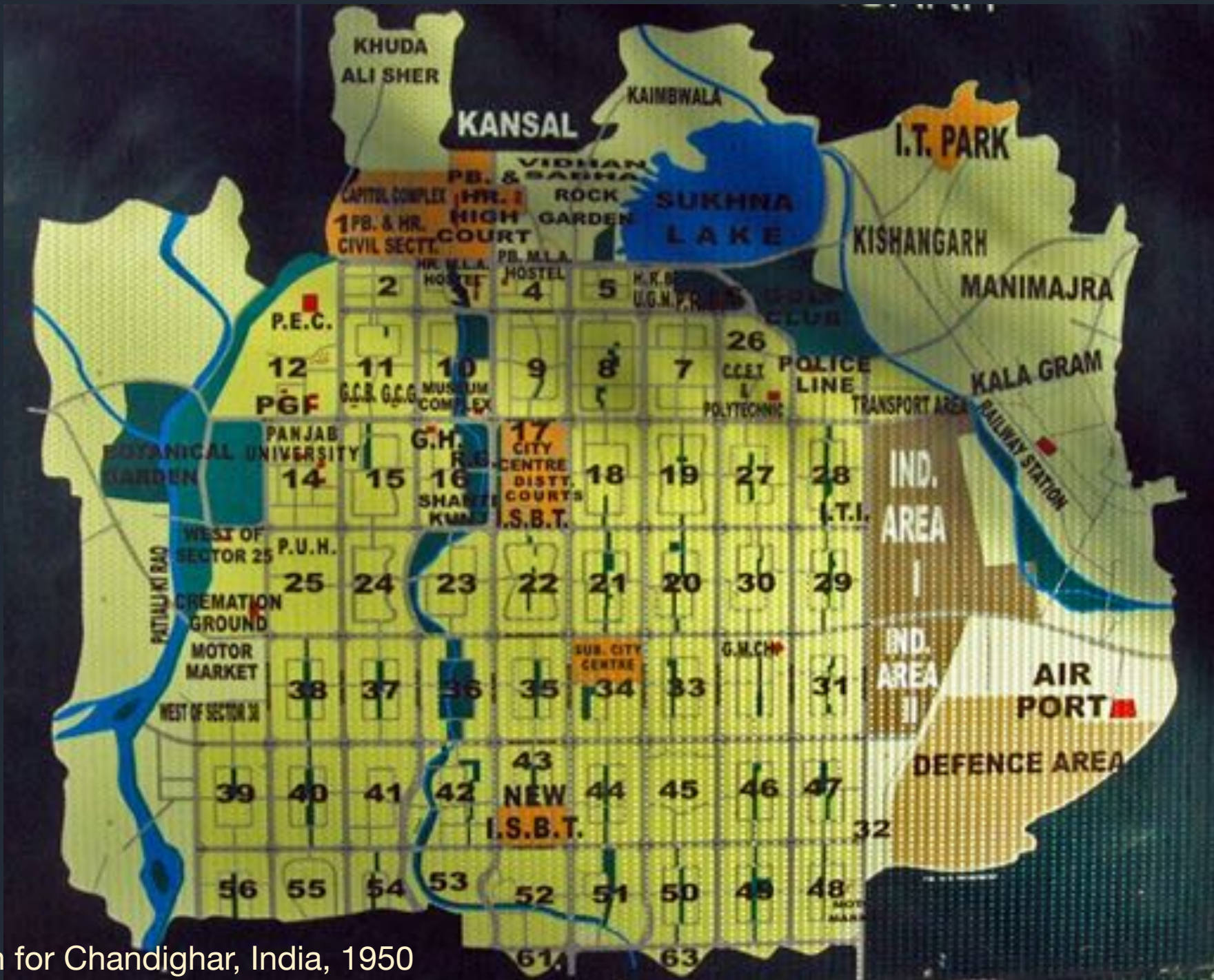
For statistical data relating to this plan, see tables, pp. 134-137, Plan No. 3.



Walter Burley Griffin, Plan of Canberra, 1912

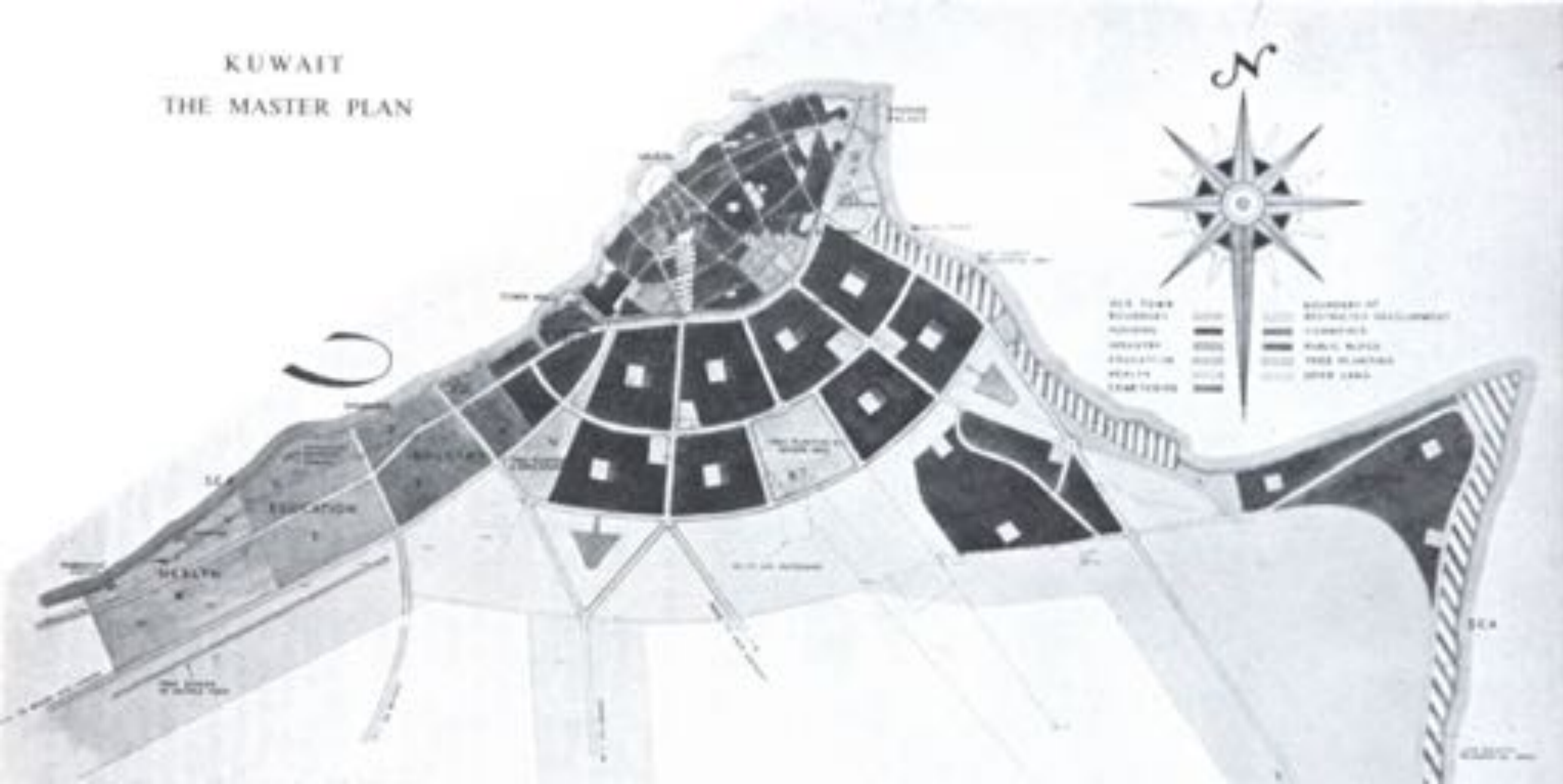


Richard Neutra, 1942

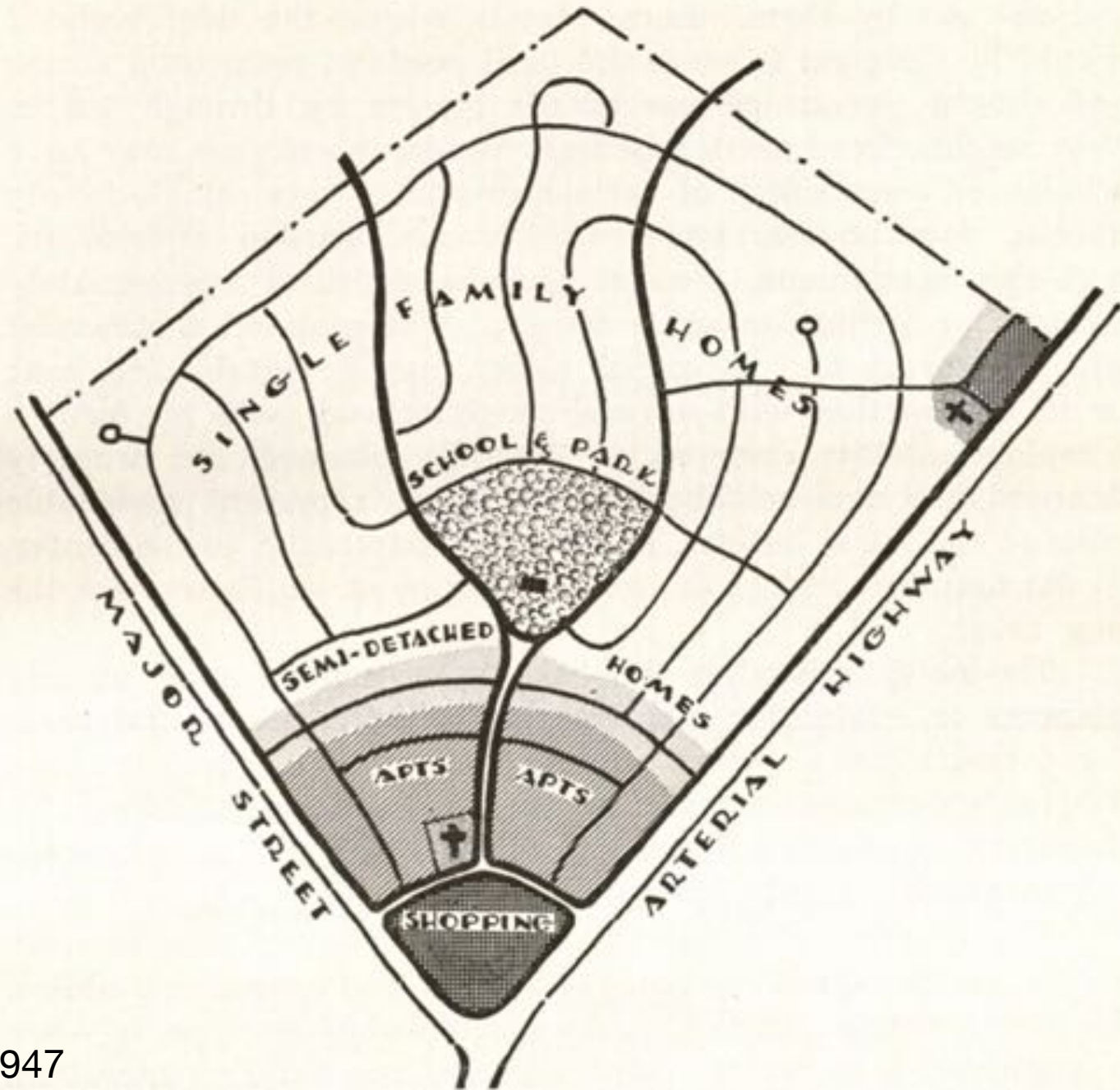


Le Corbusier, Plan for Chandigarh, India, 1950

KUWAIT THE MASTER PLAN



Neighborhood Unit Principles





ULI, 1970s

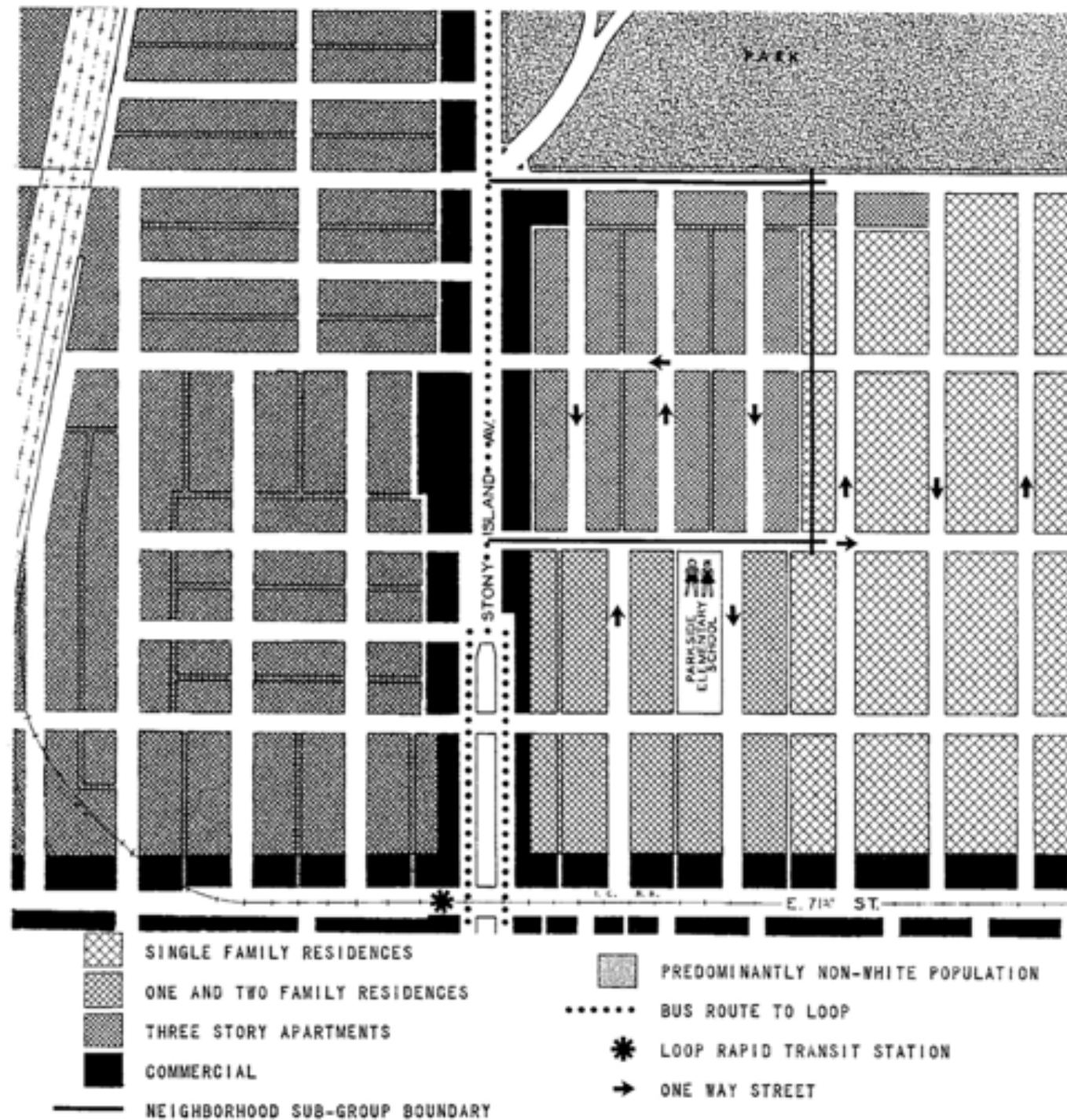


Mikrorayon, Tbilisi, Georgia, 1960s



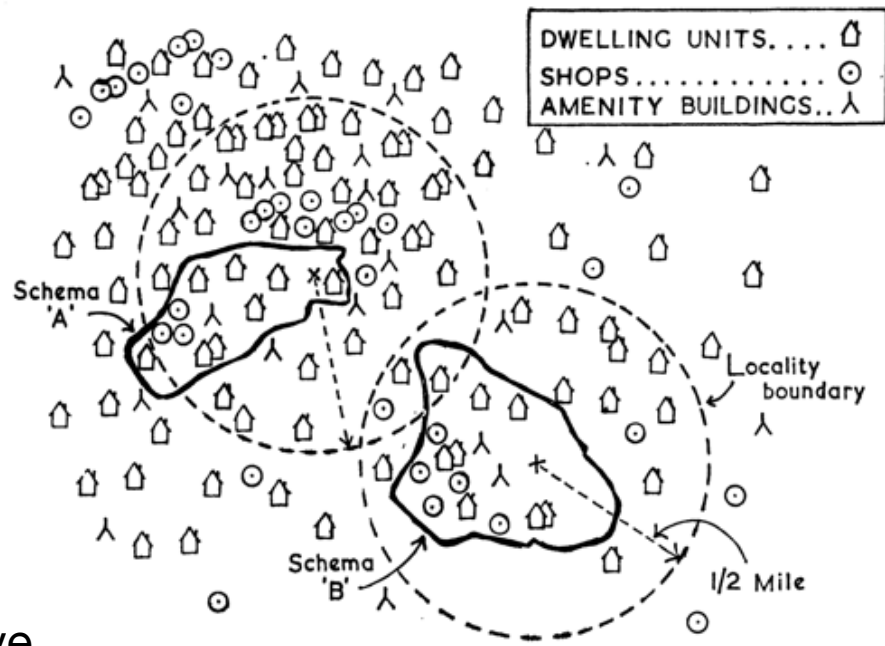
Caoyang, Shanghai, 1951

Design debates

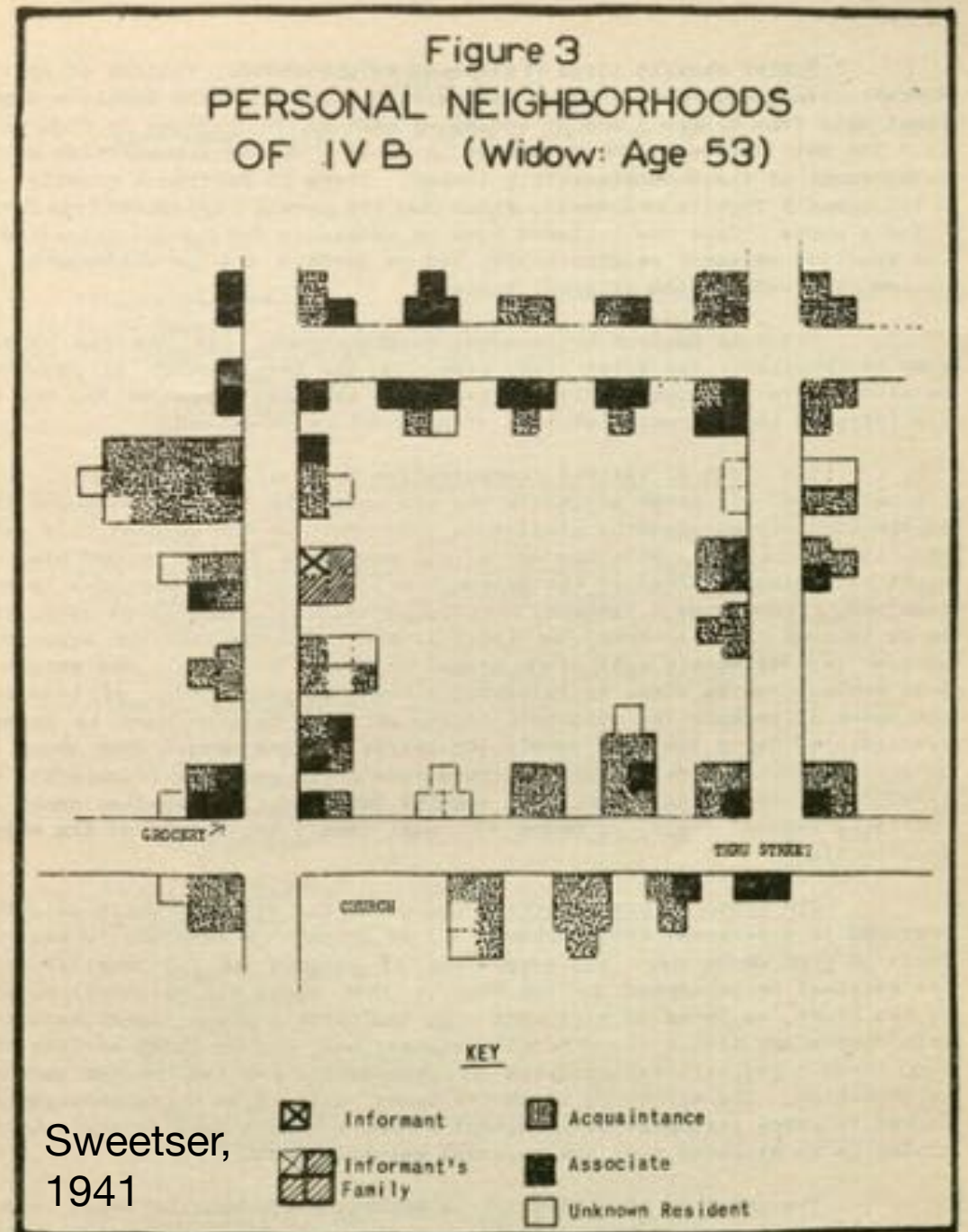


Neighborhood Boundaries, 1960

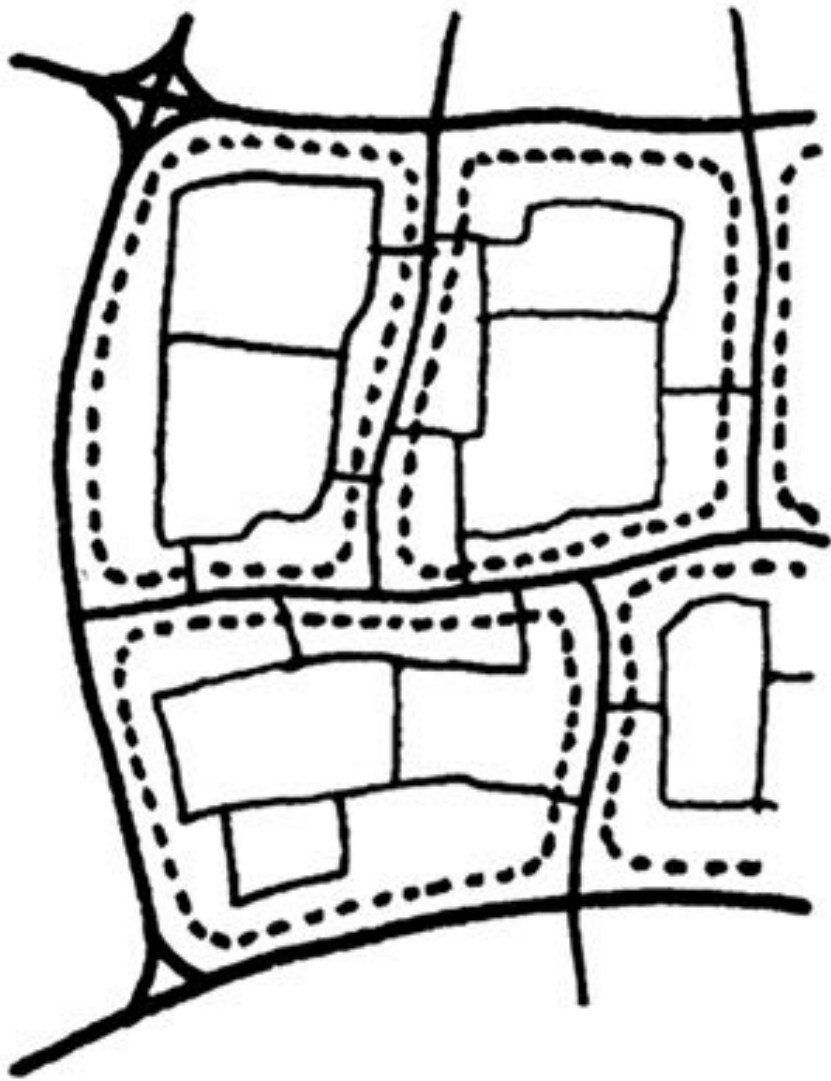
Can neighborhoods be planned?







Cognitive neighborhoods



Sweetser, 1941



Buchanan Report,
1963

- Primary distributors 
- District distributors 
- Local distributors 
- Environmental area boundaries 

Neighborhood self-governance: good or bad?



"Immigrant Neighborhood Gathering" 1920, Chicago

“The neighborhood as an organizing
mechanism is dead!”

Edward T. Chambers, 1988
Exec. Director, IAF

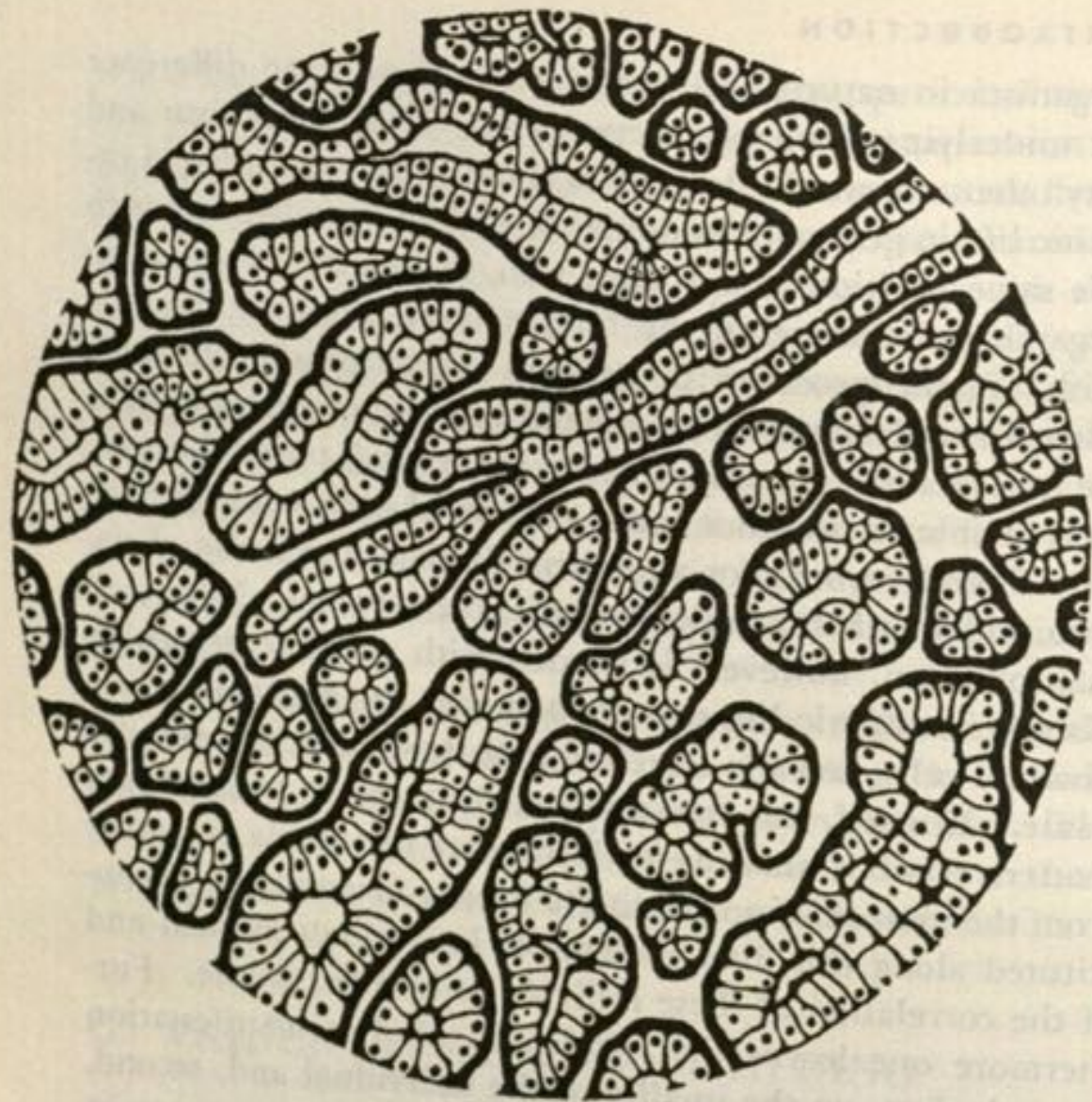
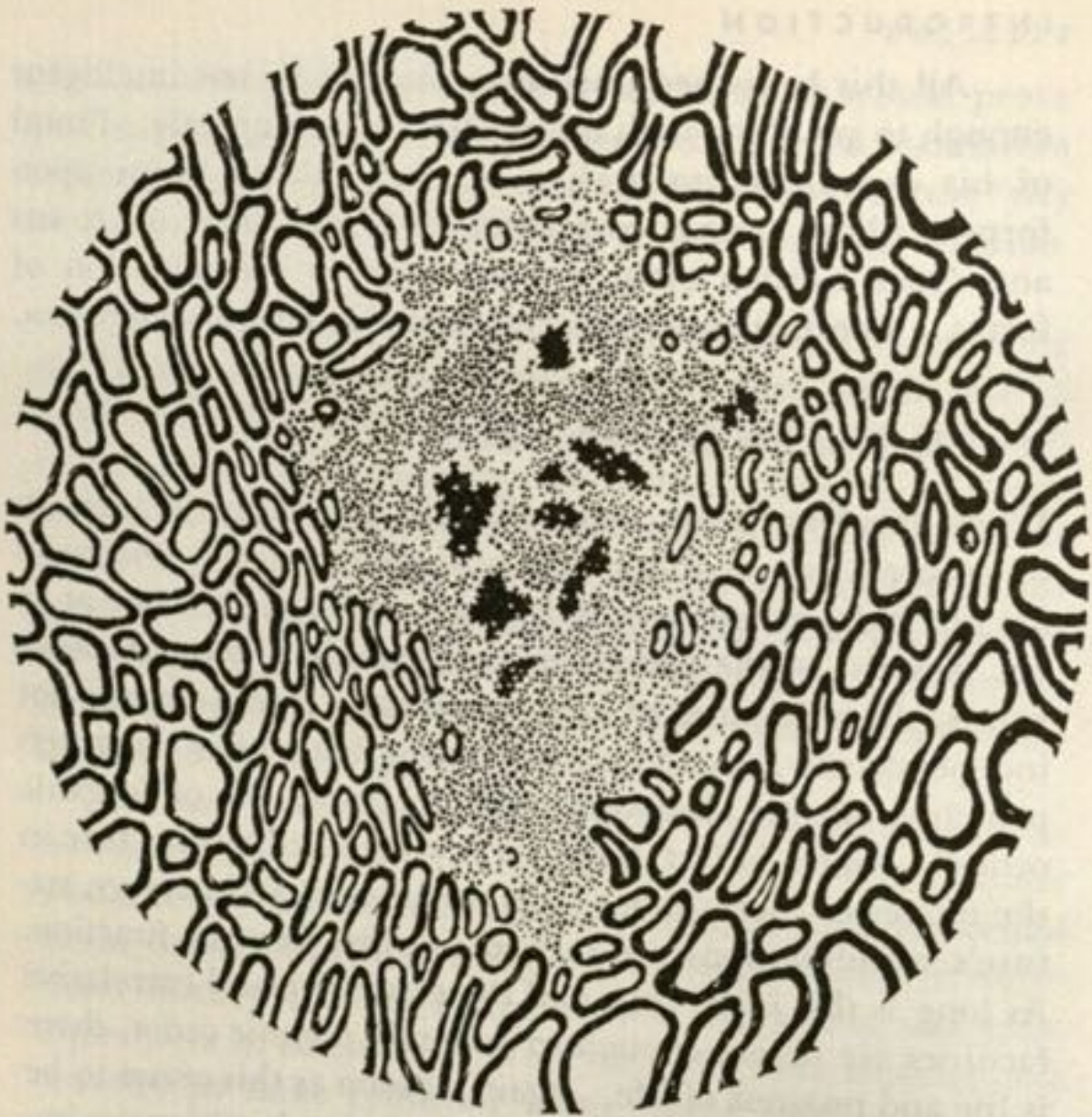
Social confusion

Planning must deal with an entire region
and its many complex problems, as
industry commerce
transportation housing
health government
recreation

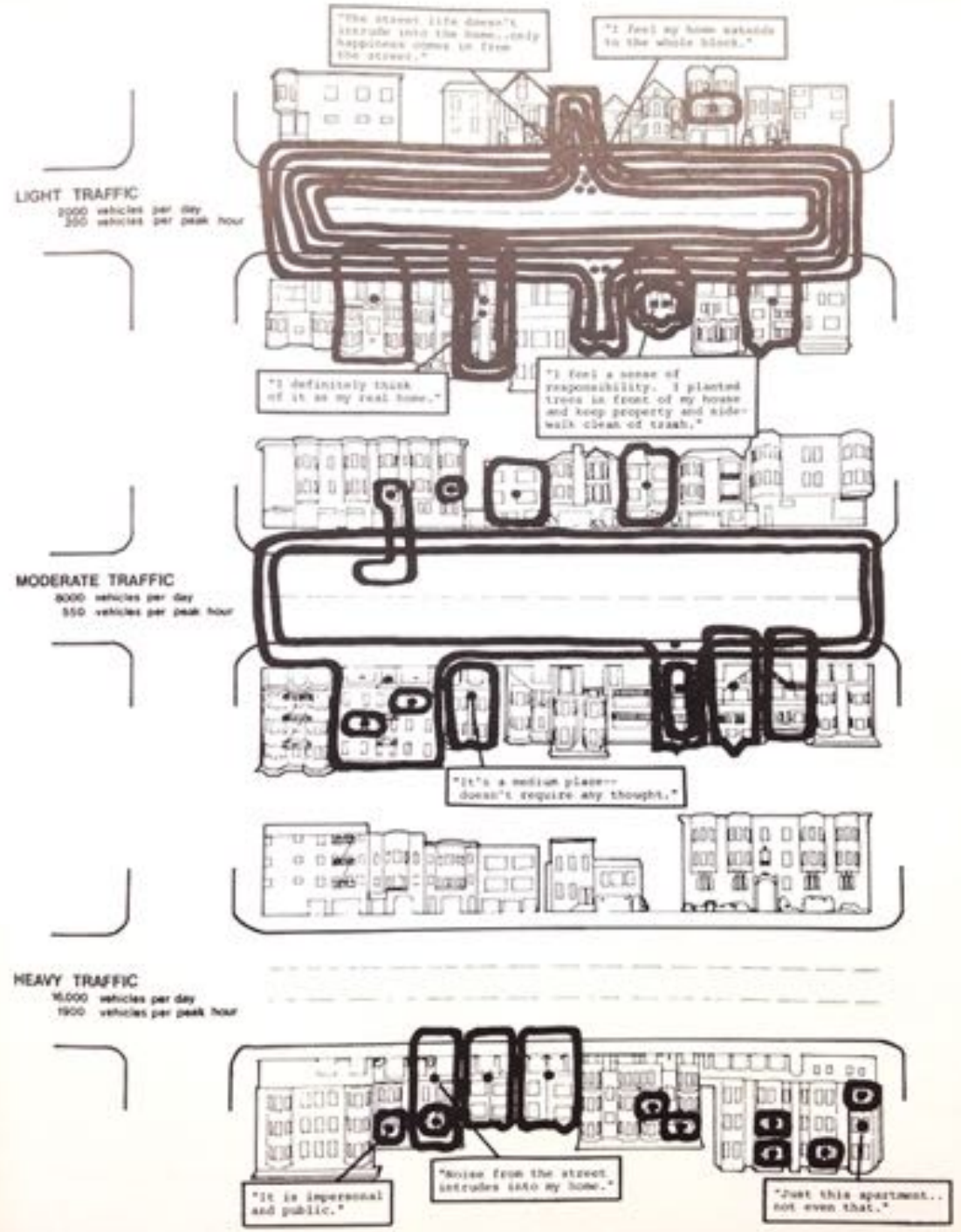
But planning begins with
YOU
YOUR FAMILY
YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD



The neighborhood is the basic unit of any town, city, or region.
It must be small enough to allow for a good social life.
It must be large enough to support a good elementary school,
(i.e., 1000 to 1500 families).
It must have its park, its social center, its stores, its
opportunities for work.
It must provide for people with different interests, jobs, and incomes.
In such neighborhoods people will want to work together
to solve their mutual problems.
They will have the chance to become
A REAL COMMUNITY OF RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS



Eliel Saarinen, 1943



Donald Appleyard, 1980

Social segregation



Lakeview
Terrace,
Cleveland, 1937

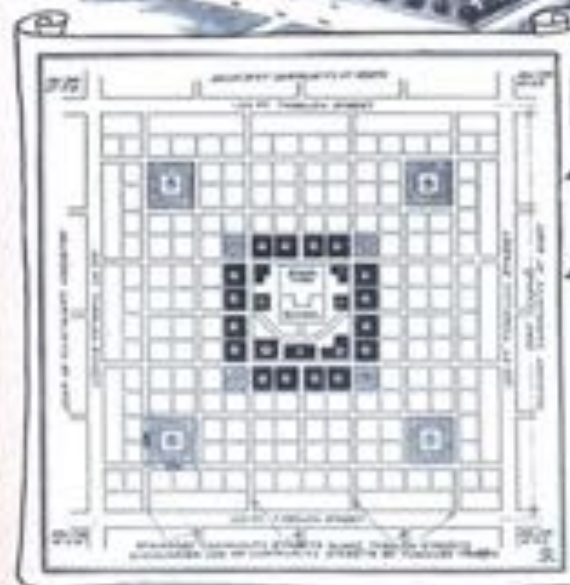


CELLULAR CITY

HIGHLY modernized cellular cities are predicted for the future by the Regional Plan of New York and its Environs based on a 5-year study by Clarence Arthur Perry of the recreation department of the Russell Sage Foundation.

The cell city which is seen by Perry as the inevitable product of an automobile age will be made up of a varying number of complete community units. The cell city proper will be like a hivescomb of individual cell cities, standardized, and to a certain extent self-sufficient. The typical cell unit of the cellular city as reported by the regional

plan would be a residential development providing housing for a population requiring one elementary school. The actual area of each cell would depend on density of population. This "cell" would be bounded on all sides by arterial streets wide enough to comfortably handle



Here is an artist's plan and conception of the "cellular city" or ideal neighborhood unit which is seen as the inevitable result of the automobile age, by Clarence Arthur Perry of the recreation department of the Russell Sage Foundation. The map legend follows: 1—Public institution on corner; 2—Church on corner; 3—Library on corner; 4—Postoffice on corner; 5—Y.M.C.A. or similar institution on corner; 6—Garage; 7—Business building and shops; 8—Parks and play grounds combined.

of TOMORROW



An ideal regional community unit like the above with recreation spaces protected from hazardous auto traffic is planned for the future by experts.

all through traffic. The "cell" would include its own system of small parks and recreational spaces, large enough to accommodate the population of the cell only.

Sites for the school, postoffice and other service institutions would be grouped in the center of the "cell." One or more shopping districts adequate to serve the population

of the neighborhood unit would be located in the circumference of the "cell," preferably at the traffic junctions and adjacent to similar districts of adjoining neighborhoods each laid out on the same general scheme.

The unit should be provided with a special street system, each highway being designed to facilitate circulation.