The International Conference of the CIVVIH Sub Committee for Central-East Europe 29th of June – 3rd of July, 2016 in Cesky Krumlov, Czech Republic

“Quality of Public Space in World Heritage Cities. Opportunities and Threats”
Impact of quality and treatment of Public spaces in world heritage cities, new urbanism, new challenges

Le HAVRE city case
The city of Le Havre was created in 1517 by François the first. This area was and still is a strategical one. Located at the mouth of the seine, in the north of France and now one of the challenges of GRAND PARIS.
Le HAVRE is also one of the cities which has followed a master plan since its creation, so we can observe the different layers that compose it: the base of the cliff in the north, the trader’s housing in the south and the extension in the east, planned to face the increase of the shipping activity in 1787.

Le Havre is the fifth port in Europe, the first in France regarding the capacity of containers and the volume of activity.
World Heritage City
Concreete city
Grey city

2 criterion were considered:
Criteria (2): An exchange of considerable influence, over a given period of time, concerning the development of architecture, urban planning or creation of landscape.
Because of the scale of the site and the extensive panel of architects who worked in Le Havre and followed the construction rules set by Perret, the reconstruction of the city offered a very large field for experiments on the conception of a modern city and technical methods for building it. Exchanges between the Perret School of architecture and young architects influenced by the theories of Le Corbusier gave birth to a unique urban fabric, presenting the attributes of both a classical and modern city.
Criteria (4): an edifying example of a construction type or an architectural scheme, or a landscape characteristic of a significant period of human history.
World Heritage City
Concreete city
Grey city

Thanks to the size of its reconstruction, as well as the great coherence of its urban plan, Le Havre became a symbol for all of the reconstructed European cities.
The city of Le Havre, was severely bombed during the second world war. After Liberation, Le Havre was one of the most damaged cities in France and Europe, it was what we call TABULA RASA: 150 ha cleared, 10 000 buildings demolished, 5 000 deaths, 80 000 homeless …
MAIN STEPS

- 1995: the City Council takes the initiative of protecting the Perret reconstructed city center, as well as its immediate environnement, a 250 ha area (ZPPAUP = Protection Zone).
- 2001: Le Havre joins the French listing as Ville d’Art et d’Histoire (City of Art and History), thanks in particular to its contemporary architectural heritage.
- 2002: the international exhibition: “the Poetry of Concrete”, at the Malraux Museum, gets Perret international recognition for his masterpiece.
- Spring 2003: Le Havre gets added to the French list of applicants.
- December 2003: Le Havre is nominated as candidate by the French State, chosen among a list of about 30 sites.
MAIN STEPS

- January 2004: Le Havre applies to UNESCO, The “Poetry of Concrete” exhibition is shown at the Institute François architecture in Paris.
- March 2004: the application file is transferred to ICOMOS for scientific assessment.
- August 2004: ICOMOS experts visit the site of Le Havre.
SEPTEMBER 1945

The French government designated Gustave PERRET, an international architect, heading a team of partners to rebuilt the Port City, from 1945 to 1964

The destroyed area will be rebuilt following a master plan drawing inspiration from the previous plan, it was an experimental and unique site in France, first by the coherence of theoretical principles of the team, the principle of pré fabrication and concrete technology and of course by using the urbans tools of density and land reparation.
Rebuilding

The shape of the previous cities were used as a means to create the new mater plan
Rebuilding the city is going to form an entity. The modernity of the urban space, regular one, the quality of the holdings existing structure makes the Rebuilt city one of the major Works recognized in the history of architecture

The site forms the administrative, commercial and cultural center of Le Havre.

Gustave PERRET designed the new area, grid 6,24 “ce que je veux, c’est faire quelquechose de neuf et de durable, puisque nous sommes à zero, il faut en profiter pour partir sur de nouvelles bases qui permettront de faire face à l’évenir de grande ville et de grand port que LE avre a devant lui”
Le Havre
la ville reconstruite par Auguste Perret
POLITIQUE PATRIMONIALE

After reconstruction, local architects and historians engaged in different types of architectural research in order to preserve and highlight the benefit of modern architecture. The politic of the built environment, the path to world heritage status
1995 ZPPAUP

Many urban tools are created and deployed in France to ensure the protection of our urban and landscape heritage and to highlight the value of areas or sites for many reasons such as esthétiques. These tools are also used to facilitate the control of the quality of architectural and urban design.

In 1995, the ZPPAUP of the city of Le Havre was created. A symbolic date, marking the first recognition of the heritage the city.

ZPPAUP defines the rules for the PERRET Buildings to highlight the architectural aspect of the area to be rebuilt: Sequencing of the elevations, the comprehension of the structure, the diversity of the concrete treatments.

The boundary of the ZPPAUP corresponds to the area listed by UNESCO. This is city life. ZPPAUP is the tool of control for construction and demolition. In 2015 the AVAP replaced the ZPPAUP.
2005 WORLD HERITAGE

Le Havre is exceptional among many reconstructed cities for its unity and integrity. It combines a reflection of the earlier pattern of the town and its extant historic structures with the new ideas of town planning and construction technology. It is an outstanding post-war example of urban planning and architecture based on the unity of methodology and the use of prefabrication, the systematic utilization of a modular grid, and the innovative exploitation of the potential of concrete.
2005 WORLD HERITAGE

IMPACT

The registration did not bring any grant, but the recognition of the universal exceptional value of the center reconstructed had incidences at the local, national and international levels:

1/ Media contributes to spread a new image of Havre in compliance with its identity.

2/ Auguste Perret's is as major architect of the XXth century.

3/ the dialogue with the actors of the local life favored

4/ Strengthening the cultural dynamics: the city center is more and more the object or the theater of exhibitions.

5/ Sensitive Increase of the tourist

6/ Development of the pole cruise which receives more than 120 ships/year.
1995
2015

ZPPAUP
AVAP
The landscape or green land definition of the city was completely absent in the ZPPAUP study, including the ancient buildings.

Vacant lands are missing within the city as well as in its periphery.

The ingredients of the city which contribute to its attractivity are also missing!

Port city
coastline
Estuary
PLU

Regarding the orientation of PLU rules which define two major directions for territorial development: 1/ enhance the centrality by using the existent structures, TRAMWAY project, 2/ enhance the cost activity: urban recovery, front walk, links with the rebuilt city.
The main targets defined by the municipality during the development of AVAP in the continuity of the ZPPAUP

✓ 1. Highlight the heritage of RECONSTRUCTION, develop the heritage through respect of the Universal Value, Confirm the OUV
✓ 2. Promote a strong ambition of sustainable development taking into account the economy and the social dimension following the GRENELLE II, new tool to manage cities in order to respect Sustainability starting 2010
✓ 3. A strong need to Clarify and complete the current rules taking into account the recent experience and consolidate the strategy of the municipality
✓ Establish the new boundary and analyses the current state.
✓ 4. Promote the specificities of the Rebuilt area, preserve the visual grid and the public spaces
✓ 5. Enhance PERRET works, in order to create and imagine similar models
Identification of the new areas to be linked to rebuilt the UNESCO area

La ville des cours, La ville sur la mer, L’avant ville, Les scènes portuaires, La ville métisse, Les reliefs au pied de la costière
The new Area is definitely the area including the buffer zone,

The main recommendations consist in a partition between Architecture, landscape, energy and public spaces, it aim to create an architectural list including buildings with architectural or urban interest

before rebuilding,
after rebuilding,

The Volcano is one in this category “after reconstruction“
La trame des cours

[Map of an urban area with various symbols and colors indicating different types of spaces, including public spaces, courtyards, and open spaces.]

Bâti de l'AVAP
Espaces publics
Abras ouverts
Cour extérieure
Cour intérieure ouverte
Cour intérieure fermée
Espace ouvert en eau
The new rules aim to give a social and **sustainable** link:

the main orientation goes on the value of the public spaces, promote a sustainable city, desirable for all, a model that meets the environmental, social and energetic challenges, and which place the wellbeing of the inhabitants at the heart of concerns.

That divides the strategy of public spaces into:

1/ sharing the public spaces,
2/ creating a common vocabulary for public spaces

The landscape aspect identifies two sets:
open space as the stage of the rebuilt city
open space as spatial compounding: courts, François the first, Monuments, visual frame.
AVAP recommendation for the public space in rebuilt area

- Confirm the OUV
- Promote the sustainability
- Enhance PERRET works

The recommendations are divided in two parts: Private and public, and quality and biodiversity

For the public use, vegetation, parking areas, ground treatments, urban furniture, water management. For private use, the priority is focused on vegetation, parking areas ground treatments, urban furniture, water management. Fences and garden roof tops.
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Main Buildings
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