

CAMILLO SITTE 2.0? A SEQUEL

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INTRODUCTION

Camillo Sitte (1843–1903) is well known for his theoretical work “City Planning According to Artistic Principles” published in 1889. It is a milestone of urban design, which has not lost its validity even in the 21st century. Translated into several languages its influence has internationally spread over two centuries, although only giving an impression of the situation in late 19th century Vienna.

Given this, and ever since Sitte’s early death, scientists have discussed whether he has planned a sequel to his famous work. Unfortunately, there was no convincing evidence in the legacy of Camillo Sitte which is held in the University Archive of the TU Vienna.

“Camillo Sitte 2.0? A sequel” is the title and theme of my current PhD thesis. It examines the theory of a second volume to Sitte’s masterpiece, and how it may have influenced urban planning.

“CITY PLANNING ACCORDING TO ECONOMICAL AND SOCIAL PRINCIPLES”^[1]

This title was introduced by Karl Henrici (1842–1927), for the second volume - a small hint given in his obituary on Camillo Sitte in 1904^[2]. Henrici gave a short description of the operating principles of Sitte and suggested an almost finished book which may be published soon by Siegfried Sitte – the oldest son who followed the footsteps of his father and became architect and city planner himself.

The image shows a page of handwritten text in German, likely a draft or a working paper. The handwriting is cursive and somewhat dense. The text appears to be a continuation of the theoretical or practical work mentioned in the introduction, possibly related to the 'sequel' mentioned in the caption. The page is filled with several paragraphs of text, with some lines starting with 'Man...' and 'Die...'. The ink is dark, and the paper shows some signs of age.

The image shows a page of handwritten text in German, titled "Volkswohnungen" (People's Housing). The text is organized into numbered sections, likely representing different housing types or planning principles. The handwriting is cursive and clear. The page is filled with several paragraphs of text, with some lines starting with "I. Für...", "II. Für...", and "III. Für...". The ink is dark, and the paper shows some signs of age.

Volkswohnungen

I. Für Leute geringen Einkommens
altmüllheim, midballen.

a. 2-3 Zimmer 15-30 Stellen per Block
Kloßhöfen zu 6-10 Zimmern
in Erdgeschoss.

b. 2-3 Zimmer 2-3 mit
Balkonwiese. in wilder
Zonen.

c. 2-3 Zimmer, kleinfeldig und
vollständig einseitig.

d. 2-3 Zimmer mit Hofeigenen.

II. Für einfache Familien
e. 2-3 Zimmer mit Kleinhof (Kloßhöfen)
(Block mit 2-3 Zimmern, Hofeigenen)

f. 2-3 Zimmer + Hofeigenen.

g. 2-3 Zimmer + Hofeigenen: + Hofeigenen
(Block mit 2-3 Zimmern, Hofeigenen)

III. Für einfache Familien (Kloßhöfen) (Kloßhöfen)
ganzseitig.

a. 2-3 Zimmer + Hofeigenen (Block mit 2-3 Zimmern, Hofeigenen)

b. 2-3 Zimmer + Hofeigenen (a. in d. H.)

c. 2-3 Zimmer + Hofeigenen (a. in d. H.)

IV. Für einfache Familien
alle haben mit Hofeigenen
Kloßhöfen (Kloßhöfen)

Figure 1: Two examples of autographs from Camillo Sitte

It is obvious that this sequel would have had a major impact on the scientific landscape and the discipline of urban design at all. But the sequel was never published and all traces to the book vanished.

The institute of Urban Design holds since the late 2000s a collection of two caskets which derives from the legacy of a former employee of the family Sitte^[3]. It consists of different hand written materials, sketches and photographs from different scale. The material has never been published or examined. Preliminary research has proved so far, its connection to Camillo Sitte and his lost sequel. The major part are autographs of Sitte, written in old german script (see Figure 1).

The research on this collection puts up the main framework for my PhD thesis. Until now the given material has been sorted, archived and transliterated. It allows a deep insight on Sitte's sequel "City planning according to economical and social principles". It is to be clarified which theoretical questions occurred and what solutions Sitte would offer for the discipline.

Based on the ongoing research it will be possible to reconstruct the main structure of the planned second volume, thus giving an impression of the themes discussed by Camillo Sitte. The structure and themes of the sequel will be examined and critically commented within my thesis. It is obvious that Sitte's second volume would have influenced if not changed urban planning throughout Europe and the whole world. The thesis will link these two "City Planning" volumes and compare them due to its content, which of Sitte's ideas are repetitious, innovative or even revolutionary to the discipline.

The results of the PhD thesis shall lead to a publication adding to the "Camillo Sitte Edition"[4], comprising all materials according Sitte's theoretical and practical work.

REFERENCES

[1] The translated title was first introduced by Ralph Wurzer in his Master Thesis at University of Tennessee, see: Ralph Wurzer, Camillo Sitte and America: A Study of the Reception of Sitte's Ideas in American Planning Literature. University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Master Thesis 1988.

[2] „Zu einem zweiten Bande seines Buches, welcher den Titel: ‚Der Städtebau nach wissenschaftlichen und sozialen Grundsätzen‘ tragen, und von seinem Sohn, dem Architekten Siegfried Sitte, herausgegeben werden wird, ist das Material fast fertig zusammengetragen.“ Henrici, Karl: „Nachruf für Camillo Sitte“ in: „Der Städtebau“, Jahrg. 1, Heft 3, 1904. p. 34.

[3] Franz Stokreiter / Siegfried Sitte, Das Wirtschaftsbild (Beiträge zu Städtebau und Raumplanung, 24), Wien 1997, p. IX.

[4] The last volume of the Edition was published in 2014, see: Klaus Semsroth / Michael Mönninger / Christiane Crasemann Collins (Hrsg.), Camillo Sitte Gesamtausgabe. Schriften und Projekte, 6 Bde., Bd. 6, Entwürfe und städtebauliche Projekte, Wien-Köln-Weimar 2014.