European Landscapes in Transition
10 public lectures in Copenhagen and Aarhus Nov 2013 – Jan 2014

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From the last lecture on North European landscapes and the Green Heart in Holland.

“De Randstad”, metropolitan area of 7 million inhabitants.

National Landscape “Het Groene Hart”
The city and the Country
– on changing urban-rural relationships

• On segregated images of the country and the city
• The country and the city in history
• Planning the country and the city ....
• On urbanisation of rural landscapes and ruralisation of urban landscapes
Main points and questions

• Agricultural sustainability (soil, climate, water, drainage, terrain,) has historically been a determining factor in agricultural development, which in turn has affected location and development of towns and cities in Europe.

• Spatial planning has - historically and up to present time - mainly been urban planning.

• Rural landscapes become increasingly urbanised - the urban-rural relationships are changing - this is challenging policy as well as research.

• Images associated with the city differ from images associated with the country.

The common image of the country is now the image of the past and the common image of the city an image of the future. That leaves if we isolate them, an undefined present.

Williams 1973, p. 297
The country and the city in history

The rural village *(Arnaud 1998, p.40)*

The medieval town

The Renaissance city

The industrial city
Four forms of urbanisation

A. From the rural hinterland to urban centres: ‘Urbanisation’
B. From urban centre to urban periphery: ‘sub-urbanisation’
C. From urban areas to the countryside: ‘counter-urbansation’
D. From suburbs to urban centres: ‘re-urbanisation’
New urban rural relationships

Primary flows of capital

From Bryant and Johnston 1992

18. Century

20. Century

'inner fringe'

'outer fringe'

'cultural hinterland'

City centre

Suburban

From Bryant and Johnston 1992
Two major drivers:

1. Agriculture (expanding food markets and policy deregulation)
2. Urbanisation (including counter urbanisation)

... and the dynamics of the ‘place of space’
The "three Magnets" and Garden Cities (Williams 1965)
The changing rural fringe and different "containment strategies"

- Protected green belt
- Protected wedges
- Green belt and satellites
- Urban development zones
- Existing city area
- Protected landscapes

Adapted from Millward (2006)
The changing rural fringe example: Town of Viborg, DK
Two policy domains of significance to agricultural landscapes:

1. Agricultural Policy – highly centralised, currently being de-regulated
2. Spatial Planning Policy – de-centralised, currently being re-regulated
The changing rural fringe example: Town of Viborg, DK - and Manchester
Planning of the urban-rural interface (inner fringe)

Two principles of urban development

Source: Primdahl et al. 2009
Planning policies should ensure:

- Relative stable urban borders with easy access to the surrounding landscapes
- Clear development directions
- And built upon deep structures
The urban fringe and outdoor recreation

Changes in 'forest visits' 1976-1994, DK

- Increase in number of visits: 15-25%
- Changes in duration, distance and form of transport

Conclusion: the recreational functions of the fringe areas are growing in importance
(Source: Jensen and Koch 2004)
The two case study areas

Hvorslev

Sønder Omme
The two case study areas - development trends 1996-2008

Sdr. Omme (N= 167/118) (poor conditions)

- Number: 35, 12
- Area: 42, 32

Hvorslev (N= 567/360) (good conditions)

- Number: 27, 15
- Area: 51, 49

◄ Full time farmers

◄ Hobby farmers

1995/96 2008
Regional study of changes in farming intensity, 1995-2006

154 regions in EU15. Source: FADN/DG-AGRI-G3, SEAMLESS adaption