• incorporation within the master plan of clearly delineated conservation plans, clarifying zones requiring special treatment, and the nature of that treatment.

Integrated administrative structures

Civic governments generally develop internal structures aligned with the particular services they deliver. Department heads, each responsible for a particular set of services, compete with each other for available resources to fulfill their respective mandates. Once heritage conservation is recognized by a civic administration as a legitimate field of endeavor, those responsible are usually housed within a city's planning department, since it is principally through the use of planning mechanisms that cities involve themselves in conservation.

As long as heritage conservation is perceived as a "service," its capacity to influence will be limited by the strength of the particular voices or departments championing its worth in civic debate. Increasing the size of the conservation unit department is therefore not the only means to increase the acceptance of conservation ideas; nor is the creation of special heritage units to coordinate conservation activities and goals among departments. Indeed, in the long run, recognizing conservation as a legitimate civic objective, it may be more useful to promote appropriate "attitudes" within other departments.

Conclusion: the fourth generation

The fourth generation, the emerging wave, is being led by cities such as Amsterdam. Starting their developments in the aftermath of the 1990s world-wide economic recession, they are having to rethink the use of resources. Learning from its own earlier proposals for the Ii, Amsterdam is also rethinking the key components of architecture as a part of city building. The idea of the post-industrial city is a transitional one, appropriate perhaps to turn-of-the-century uncertainty. The character of the postindustrial waterfront in the information age is not yet clear. As we enter the twenty-first century there is a sense of celebration. What we expect is that the balance between cultural opportunity and quality of life will play a dominant part in shaping the successful city.

With waterfront development it has often been the case that theory has followed practice, the main forums for discussion being the conferences that have brought together practitioners. It is to be hoped that the Harvard Conference may mark the beginning of a radical review by a new generation better able to see the needs of the information age.

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