



Ed Bacon, 1950s.
From *Design of Cities*, by Ed Bacon.
Photograph by James Drake.

out the blighted neighborhoods on the basis of a fair and uniform standard. This would avoid the artificial concept of the creation of divisive boundaries between “neighborhoods,” which never stay put anyway. . . . The concept of a firm position of leadership in the formulation of public policy and the assumption of an important administrative role where policy is formed is almost foreign to the thinking of the architectural profession. The planners have traditionally considered the design of physical structures as a detail. Administrators almost invariably think in terms of specific projects and procedures rather than the underlying correlative relationships. What we need is the architect-planner-administrator, and if we ever get it, we will then really have an urban designer.

SERT: The more one works in this field . . . the more one reaches the conviction that we cannot work with very simple formulas which are indefinitely repeated. If we want to get an element of life into the city, we have to have the formal and the informal, the intimate and the monumental. If every little space wants to be monumental, then, finally, when we come to the center of the city, there is no monumentality at all. So everything is a question of scale and the comparative contrasts of scale. Now we know that the new city calls for a series of new elements—that all things are not going to be as they have been. . . . In the exhibition here, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia,