## SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN AMERICAN PLANNING HISTORY 1565-1978

Prepared for AICP Exam Review

by

Lawrence C. Gerckens, FAICP

Modified by Larry Keating, FAICP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Events/Where?</th>
<th>Significance</th>
<th>People</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1565</td>
<td>St. Augustine, FL</td>
<td>First European permanent settlement in Continental U.S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1682</td>
<td>Plan/Philadelphia</td>
<td>First major grid plan in the U.S.: first neighborhood park system in U.S.</td>
<td>William Penn, Thomas Holme</td>
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<tr>
<td>1695</td>
<td>Plan/Annapolis, MD</td>
<td>First radio-centric street plan in U.S.</td>
<td>Francis Nicholson</td>
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<tr>
<td>1699</td>
<td>Williamsburg, VA</td>
<td>Masterpiece of American colonial city planning</td>
<td>Francis Nicholson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1733</td>
<td>Savannah, GA</td>
<td>Ward park system: followed for over 120 years.</td>
<td>James Oglethorpe</td>
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<td>1785</td>
<td>Northwest Ord.</td>
<td>Established land sectioning system west of the Appalachians.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1800</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
<td>First occupied</td>
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<td>1807</td>
<td>Governor &amp; Judges Plan for Detroit</td>
<td>Vast radial plan; second city plan adopted by Congress.</td>
<td>Woodward/Hull</td>
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<tr>
<td>1811</td>
<td>National Road begun (completed in 1840)</td>
<td>First Federal Highway (U.S. Route 40)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1848</td>
<td>Plan/Salt Lake City</td>
<td>&quot;City of Zion&quot; plan</td>
<td>Brigham Young; Joseph Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1852-</td>
<td>Reconstruction of Paris, France</td>
<td>Model for &quot;City Beautiful&quot; planning</td>
<td>Napoleon III; Baron Von Haussmann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1856</td>
<td>Central Park, NYC</td>
<td>First major purchase of parkland</td>
<td>Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1857</td>
<td>Central Park &quot;Greensward&quot; Plan</td>
<td>First major English Garden in U.S.</td>
<td>Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. Calvert Vaux</td>
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<tr>
<td>1867</td>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>First major tenement house control</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1868</td>
<td>Riverside, IL</td>
<td>Model curved street &quot;suburb&quot;</td>
<td>Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. Calvert Vaux</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1876</td>
<td>&quot;Munn v. Illinois&quot;</td>
<td>U.S. Supreme Court: first time the Court upholds regulation of private enterprise.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1879</td>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>&quot;Old Law&quot; tenement house act</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Details</td>
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<tr>
<td>1880</td>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>Census shows NYC first American city with over one million people</td>
<td></td>
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<td>1880</td>
<td>Pullman, IL</td>
<td>Model industrial town built</td>
<td>George Pullman</td>
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<tr>
<td>1883-1887</td>
<td>Minneapolis/St. Paul Park Plan</td>
<td>Regional park system plan</td>
<td>Horace W. S. Cleveland</td>
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<tr>
<td>1888</td>
<td></td>
<td>Looking Backwards</td>
<td>Bestselling book promotes city and national planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>1889</td>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>Poverty Gap Playground: first local mini-park in a slum</td>
<td>Jacob Riis (&quot;Small Park Movement&quot;)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td></td>
<td>How the Other Half Lives</td>
<td>Books that focus attention on the problems of slums and on poverty in America</td>
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<tr>
<td>1892</td>
<td>Children of the Poor</td>
<td>U.S. study of slums</td>
<td>First Federal study of city housing problems</td>
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<tr>
<td>1893</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
<td>Columbian Exposition: stimulates city planning; foundations for City Beautiful Movement. Some claim &quot;Birth&quot; of Modern American City Planning</td>
<td>Daniel Burnham, Frederick L. Olmsted, Sr., Charles F. McKim, Augustus St. Gaudens</td>
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<tr>
<td>1893</td>
<td>Kansas City, MO</td>
<td>Metropolitan Park Plan</td>
<td>George Kessler</td>
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<tr>
<td>1894</td>
<td>Pullman Strike</td>
<td>Workers Riot</td>
<td>Eugene Debs</td>
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<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td>South Shore Dr., Chicago, IL</td>
<td>First attempt to Haussmannize Chicago</td>
<td>Daniel Burnham</td>
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<tr>
<td>1897</td>
<td>Boston, MA</td>
<td>First American subway</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1898</td>
<td>A Peaceful Path to Real Reform</td>
<td>Starts the Garden City Movement</td>
<td>Ebenezer Howard</td>
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<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>&quot;New Law&quot; tenement house act</td>
<td>Daniel Burnham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902</td>
<td>McMillian Plan for Washington, D. C.</td>
<td>First complete update of L'Enfant's original plan</td>
<td>Frederick Law Olmsted Jr., Charles McKim and Augustus St. Gaudens</td>
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<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>Letchworth, England</td>
<td>First &quot;Garden City&quot;</td>
<td>Ebenezer Howard</td>
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<tr>
<td>1905</td>
<td>Manilla, Philippines</td>
<td>First application of &quot;City Beautiful&quot;</td>
<td>Daniel Burnham</td>
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<tr>
<td>1906</td>
<td>Plan of San Francisco</td>
<td>First application of &quot;City Beautiful&quot; on the mainland</td>
<td>Daniel Burnham, Edward Bennett</td>
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<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>Pittsburg, PA</td>
<td>First comprehensive social science city survey</td>
<td>Shelby Harrison</td>
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<td>1907</td>
<td>Hampstead Garden Suburb, England</td>
<td>First neighborhood unit design</td>
<td>Raymond Unwin</td>
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<td>1907</td>
<td>Hartford, CT</td>
<td>First U.S. permanent local and official planning board</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Responsible Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>Plan of Chicago</td>
<td>First plan of general scope of occidental city&gt;2M. Sometimes referred to as first American regional plan</td>
<td>Daniel Burnham Edward Bennett Frederick A. Delano Charles H. Wacker Charles D. Norton</td>
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<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
<td>First National Conference on City Planning and the Problems of Congestion</td>
<td>Benjamin Marsh Henry Morgenthau</td>
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<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>First state enabling act for planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
<td>First use of zoning on vast area of raw land to shape future development.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>&quot;The Principles of City Planning&quot; Harvard Univ.</td>
<td>First American course in city planning</td>
<td>James Sturgis Pray</td>
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<tr>
<td>1914</td>
<td>Newark, NJ</td>
<td>First municipally employed planner</td>
<td>Harland Bartholomew</td>
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<tr>
<td>1916</td>
<td>State of Ohio</td>
<td>Planning Enabling Act: model for planning commissions</td>
<td>Alfred Bettman</td>
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<tr>
<td>1916</td>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>First comprehensive zoning ordinance</td>
<td>Edward Bassett Nelson Lewis</td>
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<tr>
<td>1916</td>
<td>U.S. Highway Act</td>
<td>First in U.S. since the National Road</td>
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<td>1917</td>
<td>American City Planning Institute (ACPI) created</td>
<td>First professional planning organization in America.</td>
<td>Frederick L. Olmsted, Jr. (first president)</td>
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<td>1917-1919</td>
<td>U.S. shipyard housing programs</td>
<td>First non-military public housing built by the federal government.</td>
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<td>1919</td>
<td>Bronx River Parkway, NY</td>
<td>First American Parkway</td>
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<td>1919</td>
<td>Ohio Planning Conference</td>
<td>First statewide citizen's association in support of planning; model for APA.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>U.S. Census</td>
<td>First Census to show more than 50% of Americans as &quot;urban&quot;.</td>
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<td>1921</td>
<td>New York New Jersey</td>
<td>Port of New York Authority created. First bi-state functional authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>1922</td>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
<td>First county planning board</td>
<td>Gordon G. Whithall Hugh Pomeroy</td>
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<tr>
<td>1922</td>
<td>Kansas City, MO</td>
<td>Country Club Plaza: first auto-oriented suburban shopping center</td>
<td>J. C. Nichols</td>
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<tr>
<td>1922</td>
<td>Longview, WA</td>
<td>Exceptionally well planned industrial town; room for each land use to expand</td>
<td>S. Herbert Hare George Kessler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
<td>Leaders/Institutions</td>
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<tr>
<td>1923</td>
<td>Cambridge, MA</td>
<td>First Grad. Degree program with city planning in title: &quot;Master Landscape Arch. in City Planning&quot;</td>
<td>Harvard University</td>
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<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>Cincinnati, OH</td>
<td>Cincinnati Plan of 1915: first major city to officially adopt a comprehensive plan.</td>
<td>Alfred Bettman</td>
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<td>Ladislas Segoe</td>
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<td>George B. Ford</td>
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<td>Ernest P. Goodrich</td>
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<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>Cincinnati, OH</td>
<td>First major city to adopt a C.I.P.</td>
<td>Alfred Bettman</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>George Segoe</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>P. Blandford</td>
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<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>Euclid v. Ambler</td>
<td>U.S. Supreme Court supports comprehensive zoning.</td>
<td>Alfred Bettman</td>
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<td>J. Metzenbaum</td>
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<td>William H. Taft</td>
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<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>State of New York</td>
<td>Establishes first state housing subsidy program: first state plan.</td>
<td>Clarence Stein</td>
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<td>Henry Wright</td>
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<td>1928</td>
<td>Fairlawn, NJ</td>
<td>Radburn built by City Housing Corp.: &quot;City for the Motor Age&quot;; model for superblock developments.</td>
<td>Clarence Stein</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Henry Wright</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Alexander Bing</td>
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<td>1929</td>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>Regional plan of NY completed: includes &quot;Neighborhood Unit&quot; by Perry.</td>
<td>Clarence Perry</td>
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<td>1929</td>
<td>Harvard University</td>
<td>Creates first graduate school of City Planning.</td>
<td>Henry V. Hubbard</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Theodore K. Hubbard</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rexford Tugwell</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Charles Elliot</td>
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<tr>
<td>1933</td>
<td>New Deal Programs</td>
<td>Civilian Conservation Corps. Public Works Administration</td>
<td>Robert Kohn</td>
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<tr>
<td>1933</td>
<td>Tennessee Valley Authority created</td>
<td>First federal regional planning effort</td>
<td>Arthur Morgan</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Earle S. Draper</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Howard K. Menhinick</td>
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<tr>
<td>1933</td>
<td>Cleveland, OH</td>
<td>First state enabling act for public housing.</td>
<td>Ernest Bohn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1933</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
<td>National Planning Board</td>
<td>Harold L. Ickes</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Charles Eliot</td>
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<tr>
<td>1934</td>
<td>FHA Mortgage Insurance Created.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Alfred Bettman (1st President)</td>
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<td>1934</td>
<td>American Society of Planning Officials (ASPO)</td>
<td>First national organization of citizens in support of planning.</td>
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<td>1935+</td>
<td>Greenbelt Towns built by U.S. Dept. of Agriculture</td>
<td>Greenbelt, MD; Green Hills, OH; Greendale, WI; (Green Brook, NJ)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1935</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
<td>National Resources Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Authors</td>
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<tr>
<td>1937</td>
<td>U.S. Housing Act</td>
<td>First legislative commitment to public housing.</td>
<td>Catherine Bauer, Ernest Bohn, Robert Wagner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1937</td>
<td>National Resources Committee</td>
<td>&quot;Our Cities: Their Role in the Economy&quot;: first federal comprehensive study of urban problems.</td>
<td>Ladislas Segoe, Charles Eliot</td>
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<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>ACPI becomes American Institute of Planners (AIP)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>First Census to show American cities losing population to the suburbs</td>
<td>First census of housing quality.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>&quot;Local Planning Administration&quot;</td>
<td>Becomes the planning &quot;cookbook&quot; in postwar period.</td>
<td>Ladislas Segoe</td>
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<tr>
<td>1943+</td>
<td>Oak Ridge, TN, Hanford, WA built by federal government</td>
<td>Nuclear plants for WWII</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>National planning experiment ended</td>
<td>National Resources Planning Board 'abolished' by Congress (de-funded).</td>
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<tr>
<td>1947</td>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
<td>Atlanta Metro planning created by state legislature: first in U.S. funded from beginning with public funds.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>National Trust for Historic Preservation created</td>
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<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>&quot;Planning the Neighborhood&quot; published</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>U.S. Housing Act</td>
<td>Creates urban redevelopment program: requires compliance with city plan.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1954</td>
<td>U.S. Housing Act</td>
<td>Creates &quot;Urban Renewal&quot;, the &quot;Title 1. Section 701&quot; program and large scale public housing.</td>
<td>Victor Gruen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954</td>
<td>Detroit, MI</td>
<td>Northland Mall: the model shopping plaza.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Author</td>
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<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>U.S. Highway Act</td>
<td>Creates Interstate Highway System</td>
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<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN</td>
<td>Skyway System conceived</td>
<td>Larry Irvin</td>
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<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>U.S. Housing Act</td>
<td>Provides 50/50 (fed/local) funding for virtually all planning in the U.S.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>U.S. Housing Act</td>
<td>Creates &quot;221-d-3&quot; interest subsidized housing for low and middle incomes: new major federal housing subsidy program.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development created.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Robert Weaver (1st Secretary)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act</td>
<td>Creates the &quot;Model Cities&quot; program.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1960s</td>
<td>Advocacy planning initiated to assist the disenfranchised in America.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Paul Davidoff</td>
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<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Civil Rights Act</td>
<td>Creates the “Federal Fair Housing” Law. Parallel Supreme Court decision.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>U.S. Housing Act</td>
<td>Creates &quot;235&quot; and &quot;236&quot; interest/rent subsidy program.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>&quot;Circular A-95&quot; (Bureau of the Budget)</td>
<td>Creates a form of regional planning review.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>Dayton, OH</td>
<td>Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission adopts a &quot;Fair share Housing Plan.&quot;</td>
<td>Dale Bertsch</td>
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<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
<td>Transfer of development rights' concept developed.</td>
<td>John Costonis Jared Shlaes</td>
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<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>St. Louis, MO</td>
<td>Pruitt-Igoe project demolished with dynamite.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>AIP and ASPO are merged to create the American Planning Association (APA) and, within it, The American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP).</td>
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