

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN AMERICAN PLANNING HISTORY 1565-1978

Prepared for AICP Exam Review

by

Lawrence C. Gerckens, FAICP

Modified by Larry Keating, FAICP

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Events/Where?</u>	<u>Significance</u>	<u>People</u>
1565	St. Augustine, FL	First European permanent settlement in Continental U.S.	
1682	Plan/Philadelphia	First major grid plan in the U.S.: first neighborhood park system in U.S.	William Penn Thomas Holme
1695	Plan/Annapolis, MD	First radio-centric street plan in U.S.	Francis Nicholson
1699	Williamsburg, VA	Masterpiece of American colonial city planning	Francis Nicholson
1733	Savannah, GA	Ward park system: followed for over 120 years.	James Oglethorpe
1785	Northwest Ord.	Established land sectioning system west of the Appalachians.	
1790-	Plan/Washington.	First U.S. Grand Plan	Pierre Charles L'Enfant A. Ellicott Benjamin Banneker
1800	Washington, D.C.	First occupied	
1807	Governor & Judges Plan for Detroit	Vast radial plan; second city plan adopted by Congress.	Woodward/Hull
1811	National Road begun (completed in 1840)	First Federal Highway (U.S. Route 40)	
1848	Plan/Salt Lake City	"City of Zion" plan	Brigham Young; Joseph Smith
1852- 1870	Reconstruction of Paris, France	Model for "City Beautiful" planning	Napoleon III; Baron Von Haussmann
1856	Central Park, NYC	First major purchase of parkland	Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr.
1857	Central Park "Greensward" Plan	First major English Garden in U.S.	Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. Calvert Vaux
1867	New York City	First major tenement house control	
1868	Riverside, IL	Model curved street "suburb"	Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. Calvert Vaux
1876	"Munn v. Illinois"	U.S. Supreme Court: first time the Court upholds regulation of private enterprise.	
1879	New York City	"Old Law" tenement house act	

1880	New York City	Census shows NYC first American city with over one million people	
1880	Pullman, IL	Model industrial town built	George Pullman
1883-1887	Minneapolis/St. Paul Park Plan	Regional park system plan	Horace W. S. Cleveland
1888	<i>Looking Backwards</i>	Bestselling book promotes city and national planning	Edward Bellamy
1889	New York City	Poverty Gap Playground: first local mini-park in a slum	Jacob Riis ("Small Park Movement")
1890	<i>How the Other Half Lives</i>	Books that focus attention on the problems of slums and on poverty in America	Jacob Riis
1892	<i>Children of the Poor</i>		Jacob Riis
1892	U.S. study of slums	First Federal study of city housing problems	
1893	Chicago, IL	Columbian Exposition: stimulates city planning; foundations for City Beautiful Movement. Some claim "Birth" of Modern American City Planning	Daniel Burnham Frederick L. Olmsted, Sr. Charles F. McKim Augustus St. Gaudens
1893	Kansas City, MO	Metropolitan Park Plan	George Kessler
1894	Pullman Strike	Workers Riot	Eugene Debs
1896	South Shore Dr. Chicago, IL	First attempt to Haussmannize Chicago	Daniel Burnham
1897	Boston, MA	First American subway	
1898	<i>A Peaceful Path to Real Reform</i>	Starts the Garden City Movement	Ebenezer Howard
1901	New York City	"New Law" tenement house act	
1902	McMillian Plan for Washington, D. C.	First complete update of L'Enfant's original plan	Daniel Burnham Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. Charles McKim and Augustus St. Gaudens
1903	Letchworth, England	First "Garden City"	Ebenezer Howard
1905	Manilla, Philippines	First application of "City Beautiful"	Daniel Burnham
1906	Plan of San Francisco	First application of "City Beautiful" on the mainland	Daniel Burnham Edward Bennett
1907	Pittsburg, PA	First comprehensive social science city survey	Shelby Harrison
1907	Hampstead Garden Suburb, England	First neighborhood unit design	Raymond Unwin
1907	Hartford, CT	First U.S. permanent local and official planning board	

1909	Plan of Chicago	First plan of general scope of occidental city>2M. Sometimes referred to as first American regional plan	Daniel Burnham Edward Bennett Frederick A. Delano Charles H. Wacker Charles D. Norton
1909	Washington, D.C.	First National Conference on City Planning and the Problems of Congestion	Benjamin Marsh Henry Morgenthau
1909	Wisconsin	First state enabling act for planning	
1909	Los Angeles, CA	First use of zoning on vast area of raw land to shape future development.	
1909	"The Principles of City Planning" Harvard Univ.	First American course in city planning	James Sturgis Pray
1910	Washington, D.C.	National Comm. Of Fine Arts created	Willam H. Taft
1910-1913	Forest Hills Gardens, LI, NY	First American application of the neighborhood unit idea	Frederick L. Olmsted, Jr.
1914	Newark, NJ	First municipally employed planner	Harland Bartholomew
1916	State of Ohio	Planning Enabling Act: model for planning commissions	Alfred Bettman
1916	New York City	First comprehensive zoning ordinance	Edward Bassett Nelson Lewis
1916	U.S. Highway Act	First in U.S. since the National Road	
1917	American City Planning Institute (ACPI) created	First professional planning organization in America.	Frederick L. Olmsted, Jr. (first president)
1917-1919	U.S. shipyard housing programs	First non-military public housing built by the federal government.	
1919	Bronx River Parkway, NY	First American Parkway	
1919	Ohio Planning Conference	First statewide citizen's association in support of planning; model for APA.	
1920	U.S. Census	First Census to show more than 50% of Americans as "urban".	
1921	New York New Jersey	Port of New York Authority created. First bi-state functional authority	
1922	Los Angeles, CA	First county planning board	Gordon G. Whithall Hugh Pomeroy
1922	Kansas City, MO	Country Club Plaza: first auto-oriented suburban shopping center	J. C. Nichols
1922	Longview, WA	Exceptionally well planned industrial town; room for each land use to expand	S. Herbert Hare George Kessler

1923	Cambridge, MA	First Grad. Degree program with city planning in title: "Master Landscape Arch. in City Planning"	Harvard University
1925	Cincinnati, OH	Cincinnati Plan of 1915: first major city to officially adopt a comprehensive plan.	Alfred Bettman Ladislas Segoe George B. Ford Ernest P. Goodrich
1926	Cincinnati, OH	First major city to adopt a C.I.P.	Alfred Bettman George Segoe P. Blandford
1926	Euclid v. Ambler	U.S. Supreme Court supports comprehensive zoning.	Alfred Bettman J. Metzenbaum William H. Taft
1926	State of New York	Establishes first state housing subsidy program: first state plan.	Clarence Stein Henry Wright
1928	Fairlawn, NJ	Radburn built by City Housing Corp.: "City for the Motor Age"; model for superblock developments.	Clarence Stein Henry Wright Alexander Bing
1929	New York City	Regional plan of NY completed: includes "Neighborhood Unit" by Perry.	Clarence Perry
1929	Harvard University	Creates first graduate school of City Planning.	Henry V. Hubbard Theodore K. Hubbard Rexford Tugwell Charles Elliot
1933	New Deal Programs	Civilian Conservation Corps. Public Works Administration	Robert Kohn
1933	Tennessee Valley Authority created	First federal regional planning effort	Arthur Morgan Earle S. Draper Howard K. Menhinick
1933	Cleveland, OH	First state enabling act for public housing.	Ernest Bohn
1933	Washington, D.C.	National Planning Board	Harold L. Ickes Charles Eliot
1934	FHA Mortgage Insurance Created.		
1934	American Society of Planning Officials (ASPO)	First national organization of citizens in support of planning.	Alfred Bettman (1st President)
1935+	Greenbelt Towns built by U.S. Dept. of Agriculture	Greenbelt, MD; Green Hills, OH; Greendale, WI; (Green Brook, NJ)	
1935	Washington, D.C.	National Resources Committee	

1937	U.S. Housing Act	First legislative commitment to public housing.	Catherine Bauer Ernest Bohn Robert Wagner
1937	National Resources Committee	"Our Cities: Their Role in the Economy": first federal comprehensive study of urban problems.	Ladislav Segoe Charles Eliot
1939	ACPI becomes American Institute of Planners (AIP)		
1940	First Census to show American cities losing population to the suburbs:	First census of housing quality.	
1941	"Local Planning Administration"	Becomes the planning "cookbook" in postwar period.	Ladislav Segoe
1943+	Oak Ridge, TN Hanford, WA built by federal government	Nuclear plants for WWII	
1943	National planning experiment ended	National Resources Planning Board 'abolished' by Congress (de-funded).	
1944-1945	Urban Redevelopment	A. Bettman writes redevelopment legislation: adopted by Pennsylvania in 1945 : Golden Triangle	Alfred Bettman
1946	Pittsburg, PA	Golden Triangle Urban Renewal Project begun.	
1947	Atlanta, GA	Atlanta Metro planning created by state legislature: first in U.S. funded from beginning with public funds.	
1948	National Trust for Historic Preservation created		
1948	"Planning the Neighborhood" published		
1949	U.S. Housing Act	Creates urban redevelopment program: requires compliance with city plan.	
1954	U.S. Housing Act	Creates "Urban Renewal", the "Title 1. Section 701" program and large scale public housing.	
1954	Detroit, MI	Northland Mall: the model shopping plaza.	Victor Gruen

1954	"Berman v. Parker"	U.S. Supreme Court: U.S. "bill of rights" for Urban Renewal.	William O. Douglas
1956	U.S. Highway Act	Creates Interstate Highway System	Larry Irvin
1958	Minneapolis, MN	Skyway System conceived	
1959	U.S. Housing Act	Provides 50/50 (fed/local) funding for virtually all planning in the U.S.	
1961	U.S. Housing Act	Creates "221-d-3" interest subsidized housing for low and middle incomes: new major federal housing subsidy program.	
1961	Washington, D.C.	"Corridors and Fingers Plan": basis for Washington Metro Subway system.	
1965	U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development created.		Robert Weaver (1st Secretary)
1966	Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act	Creates the "Model Cities" program.	
1960s	Advocacy planning initiated to assist the disenfranchised in America.		Paul Davidoff
1968	Civil Rights Act	Creates the "Federal Fair Housing" Law. Parallel Supreme Court decision.	
1968	U.S. Housing Act	Creates "235" and "236" interest/rent subsidy program.	
1969	"Circular A-95" (Bureau of the Budget)	Creates a form of regional planning review.	
1970	Dayton, OH	Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission adopts a "Fair share Housing Plan."	Dale Bertsch
1971	Chicago, IL	Transfer of development rights' concept developed.	John Costonis Jared Shlaes
1972	St. Louis, MO	Pruitt-Igoe project demolished with dynamite.	
1978	AIP and ASPO are merged to create the American Planning Association (APA) and, within it, The American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP).		

