Industrial age Civilization: Birth of the Modern City, Beaux-Arts America, and National Parks

*The force that has driven the development of the modern city and civilization in general is the machine technology. This has driven the development of landscapes as part of it. Ties with history not personal and societal have had to be severed if progress was to occur. As life became less laborious, it also became more impersonal, characterized by hurrying. The paradox of power is that everything is in flux, you must sacrifice what came before as each new development is superseded. Today’s solutions are tomorrow’s problems. Leisure is a big outcome with important consequences for landscape. flâneur - Highly self-aware, and to a certain degree flamboyant and theatrical, dandies of the mid-nineteenth century created scenes through outrageous acts like walking turtles on leashes down the streets of Paris. Such acts exemplify a flâneur's active participation in and fascination with street life while displaying a critical attitude towards the uniformity, speed, and anonymity of modern life in the city.*

1. City form developments included the balconies lining the street (*Piano nobile* – upper level balconies lining up) and shop windows
2. City Beautiful Movement
   1. city as a formal object of presentation is an 18th c development – St. Petersburg, etc
   2. fragmentary development of these ideas in US as a consequence of the system of the Ecole de Beaux Arts
      1. boulevards
      2. heroic sculpture
      3. noble architecture
      4. handsome public spaces
3. **McMillan Commission** work to update L’Enfant’s plan
   1. Natural scenery became the national icon of the age
   2. Tourism and railroad interests were behind it
      1. It was primarily the revolution in transport that drove the physical changes of city life – the phenomenon of motion, the arena of pleasure and the nexus of a greater region made accessible for recreation and residential development
4. **Haussmann’s Paris**
   1. skillful reinvention of the city form through comprehensive city planning and application of industrial age technology
   2. specifically engaged arcane things like pipes – water, sewage, trains, carriages, pedestrians
      1. carriages and the new spring
      2. omnibuses
      3. ferroconcrete
      4. sidewalk dining and gas lights
   3. Public governance was responsible for sanitation, transportation, and infrastructure in general
      1. conditions of life were rampant unemployment, extreme overcrowding, unprecedented growth rate, 19,000 people died of cholera in 1848-49
      2. Haussmann’s skills were in pioneering the use of condemnation and appropriation. He was prefect of the Department of the Seine, a version of “City Manager”.
      3. Aimed specifically at the “Middle Class”. Arts were presented as a stage set for the populace themselves to be seen. Paris Opera House, grand stairways, dress and fashion, interior furnishings and new lighting
      4. new architectural forms on the streetscape – towers, spires, domes, triumphal arches, statues
      5. keeping it clean was important
      6. Perservation began with the Convention of 1893 – the Artists’ Plan
      7. developed a shoppers arcade on the northern side of the Tuilleries in to a shopping arcade Rue de Rivoli
      8. Developing new parks such as the old hunting park at Bois de Bologne to a more informal design. Also converted Parc Montsouris, Parc Manceau, Buttes-Chaumont. Its idea was basically theatrical, a place to be seen, a collection of objects.
         1. The bridge of suicides
         2. Grand frisson - thrill of amazement
         3. Baroque style
         4. Feerique or fairy like presentations
         5. change in scale – roads wider, buildings taller
      9. eventually, Haussmann was let go accused of irregularities 1870
         1. same year, nap III capitulated to the Germans after the Franco-Prussion war. Thereafter the citizens of paris revolted but was crushed after they damaged much in Paris
      10. New expositions
          1. International Exposition of 1878 – assert industrial modernity and cultural advancement, glass structures and open buildings
          2. Centennial exposition of 1889 – Eiffel Tower, 984 feet high- largest building until the Chrysler Building in 1930. conceived the elevator at Eiffel
      11. Spirit expressed by Robert Delaunay, 1911 Eiffel Tower
   4. **City Beautiful Movement** had an effect here as several generations of American designers were trained in Europe.
      1. *Charles Mulford Robinson* was a journalist who espoused the ideas
      2. *Daniel Burnham* was the architect coming from the exposition who led the discussion
      3. **McMillan Commision** 
         1. Clear obstructions from the mall and extend it to the river. Realign it with Washington’s Monument and plant 4 rows of Elm
         2. Jefferson and Lincoln memorial
         3. Move Union station
         4. Scenic parkway/boulevard – very controversial
         5. Extend the cross axis
      4. while the movement proposed neoclassical monuments, axial planning, and geometric landscape design it also recommended naturalistic parks design as a component.
   5. The national park system
      1. journalists and photographers now led the way
      2. Ruskins philosophy – inspiring emotion in cultivated beasts
      3. touristic, run by states initially
      4. started with Lincoln in 1864
      5. contrast with the private efforts at Niagara Falls and the notion of public protection of scenic values arose
      6. parks
         1. Yosemite
         2. Yellowstone Canyon
         3. Mt Ranier
      7. important people included John Muir, President Roosevelt, Stephan Mather as administrator and Horace Albright as technician and manager