

January 5, 1961.

Nigel Ashton, Esq.
Chief Town Planner
Department of Local Government
Bridge & Phillip Streets
SYDNEY

Dear Nigel:

I am attaching hereto a series of names, addresses and notes which might prove useful to you in the U.S.A.

If you wish to understand how U.S. systems work it might be better for you to concentrate on a small number of big cities, seeing all the various agencies in one city, so that you get an all-round picture. Anyway, you seem to be inundated with suggestions and advice, so I'll leave you to work out your own schedule.

The attached lists and notes are by no means exhaustive. Please let me know if there are any other places, people or aspects of planning which you would like to know more about.

Please drop a letter to the Sydney Division of the A.P.I. so that I can give you a general letter of introduction from the Institute and possibly also write direct for you to A.S.P.O. and the A.I.P.

With best wishes,

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Enclosure

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Max S. Wehrly
Executive Director
Urban Land Institute
Ring Building
1200 18th Street N.W.
Washington 6, D.C.

Telephone: FEDERAL 8 - 4522

Max Wehrly knows us and we will write to him concerning your visit when you tell us when you expect to be in Washington. I urge you to get the Department to take out Regular Membership in the U.L.I. It costs \$25.00 per annum for which you receive copies of their monthly research reports and their quarterly "Technical Bulletins". All of this material is of the highest standards of research quality.

William R. Ewald, Jr.
Assistant Commissioner for Technical Standards
Urban Renewal Administration
Housing & Home Finance Agency
Washington 25, D.C.

I have corresponded with Ewald and he has sent me material and information on Federal policies and procedures in urban renewal.

Also at the Federal level is the Bureau of Public Roads, which handles the Federal Highway program. A fellow-student of mine at M.I.T. was Walter G. Hansen who is Highway Research Engineer Division of Highway Planning, Bureau of Public Roads, Washington, D.C. He is one of the top men in highway planning on research and overall planning aspects.

The planning of the city of Washington, the District of Columbia and the adjacent region is in the hands of the National Capital Planning Commission and of the National Capital Regional Planning Council. These bodies have offices and good staffs in

Washington got the plan from the White House. In 1939 they prepared a transportation plan for the National Capital Region. It might be interesting to check up on progress in the implementation of this plan.

While in Washington, you should inspect progress on the Washington Monument Extension, a vast scheme to rebuild the entire area between the Mall and the Ford Center. You might call on the Washington office of Webb & Knapp Inc., which is handling most of the project. A considerable number of buildings should be built by now.

BALTIMORE

David A. Wallace
Director,
The Planning Council of the
Greater Baltimore Committee Inc.
10 Light Street
Baltimore 2, Md.

Telephone: SARATOGA 7-0496

I'm not sure whether Wallace is still Director of this outfit, but in any case you should try to pass through Baltimore on your way into or out of Washington D.C. The great urban renewal project there is the "Charles Centre" project, which I have described in some detail in my paper on U.S. Urban Renewal published in the June and September 1960 issues of the A.P.I. Journal.

While in Baltimore you should try to visit all the various public and private agencies concerned in the complex problems of planning and urban renewal. The official agency is the: Baltimore Urban Renewal & Housing Agency
709 Eager Street
Baltimore 3, Md.

Telephone: SARATOGA 7-3400 and PLAZA 2-2000

The Director is Richard L. Steiner, a most experienced man, I believe. The General Manager of the Charles Center Project is J. Jefferson Miller.

While in Baltimore, you should also contact the Department of Planning, City of Baltimore, of which Arthur D. McVoy is the Director. There is also a County Planning Authority which I believe is doing good work.

Of major interest in Baltimore are the citizen organisations - The Greater Baltimore Committee and The Committee for Downtown. The latter was responsible for originating the Charles Center project, which is now being implemented by the city government.

Baltimore is about the same size as Sydney, even a little smaller. It has an extremely badly blighted central area which makes the renewal work so very necessary.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

I'll leave you to get the names of Philadelphia people, agencies and contacts yourself, out of that copy of the A.I.P. Journal I sent you. Don't miss H.L. Davis and his son in the City Planning Department of the City Government, and don't miss the Urban Studies Research Institute at the University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia will be worth more than any other city to you, I think. (Please return my A.I.P. Journal to us before you leave).

BOSTON, MASS.

You can ignore the central city of Boston pretty much, except for walking along Beacon Street and through Beacon Hill, but you must visit both the M.I.T. and the Harvard Schools of City Planning. At M.I.T. see John T. Howard and Kevin Lynch. Lynch has just published a most important book on urban design, titled "The Image of the City". Howard is one of the most experienced practical planners in the U.S.A. and is very courteous and kind.

At Harvard, see Martin Hegerman; he knows more about the political problems of planning than anyone else I've seen around. You are, of course, bound to meet lots of other people in Cambridge, Mass., at these Schools, but the names I have given you should be enough for a start.

**W/nd
C.A.**