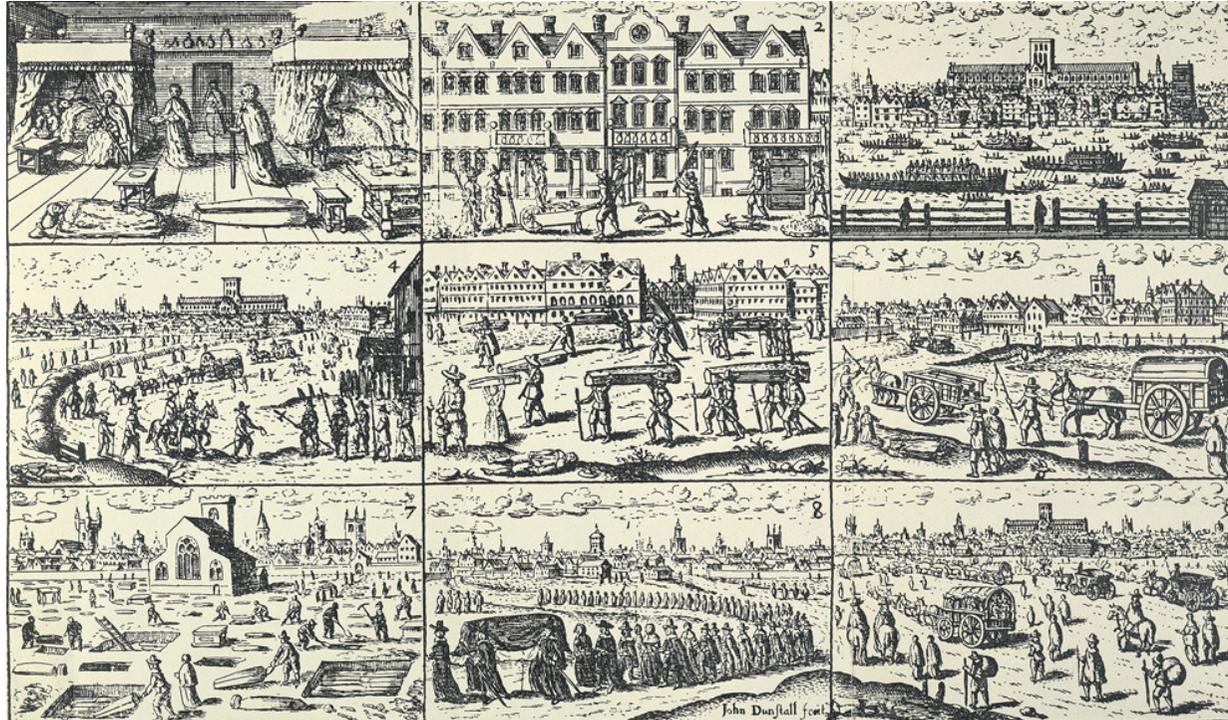




INSTITUTION AND DIAGRAM

THE STATE DREAMS OF THE PLAQUE!



The plague-ridden city is a perfectly ordered space. It is carefully segmented and all activities follow detailed descriptions of what can be done by whom at what time and place. The state dreams of the plague (an acute threat) because it allows the apparatus to set aside normal social and legal codes. The techniques of government and the judicial system are not the same. The plague-ridden city is a laboratory for the development of modern society. The negative side of this kind of government is that it creates a completely petrified space.

SOCIAL TECHNOLOGIES: DISPOSITIVES

First of all the dispositive is a relational device. It is an arrangement that joins different parts in a heterogeneous whole. It is in particular used by Foucault to describe the interactions between different practices and the way they form a complex social organism. The dispositive is really the network that connects the different parts and through which they influence each other. Foucault tries to capture a social formation in the process of becoming - consequently, the dispositive denotes the force field or set of dynamics that produce a given social formation.

The dispositive is developed as a response to a given problem. However, it is not the property of anybody. The net of relations is in many ways self organizing. There is feed back between specific strategies employed by a particular government and the relational map of the dispositive. No strategy is invented from scratch but rather extracted, refined and reinserted. It's an on-going negotiation. Consequently, the dispositive is not reducible to technology understood solely in an instrumental fashion although it is clearly one aspect of it. The technologies understood as means to an end constitute a subclass bordering on the relational dispositives often defined by Foucault as mechanisms.

Urban planning tend to conceive the development of a city as an achievement of defined goals (ex better living conditions) driven by the genius of individuals and the intentions of the state (Hausmann and the restructuring of Paris) - (top-down perspective related to the elevated eye of the state).

The history of dispositives focuses on the relations of the complex state/city-assemblage (the morphology of the city, the dynamics of the people, the state apparatus, the economic flows etc.) as the driving force of development - mapping the dynamics of emergence (bottom-up perspective offering a critical position).

THREE KINDS OF DISPOSITIVIES

1. The dispositives of sovereignty (The princly state and society up to the 17th and 18th centuries)

The governmental art of sovereignty capitalizes a territory. It is concerned with the question of the seat of government and operates through the visibility of the seat of power. The one that exercise power must be staged to exhibit brilliance. It seeks to centralize the flows to the nexus of government. The central question is how to capitalize the state, (the double meaning of capitalization - to benefit and centralize). It deals with the problem of centralizing and improving the commercial flows in one and the same operation.

2. The disciplinary dispositives (The growth of the state apparatus and modern society)

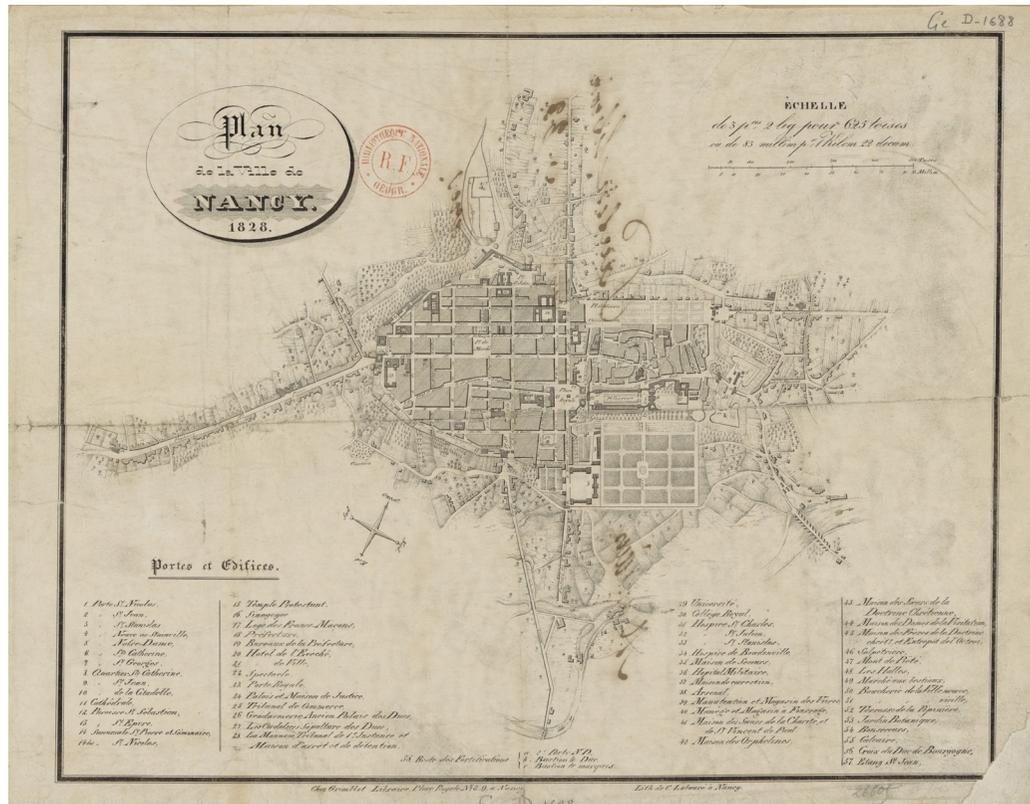
Discipline structures a space. It addresses the fundamental problem of a hierarchical distribution of elements. It operates with norms and is essentially finite in its character. It operates in an empty and closed space constructed from the ground. It creates an artificial multiplicity. It is concerned with the creation of desirable behaviours through the ordering of space.

3. The dispositives of security (Modern Society to the present age)

The dispositives furnish a territory. They try to plan a milieu that is in constant change. They operate with a temporal perspective and construct transformable frameworks.

All of them are folded into each other, it is not a question of a simple linear progression. New techniques use old techniques for other ends. The latter group is dominant today and emerges slowly through the modern era as an answer to the problem of the modern city. It is interwoven with disciplinary dispositives many of which still play a vital role.

AN EARLY EXAMPLE OF PLANNING IN RELATION TO DISPOSITIVES OF SECURITY



A map of Nancy, 1828.

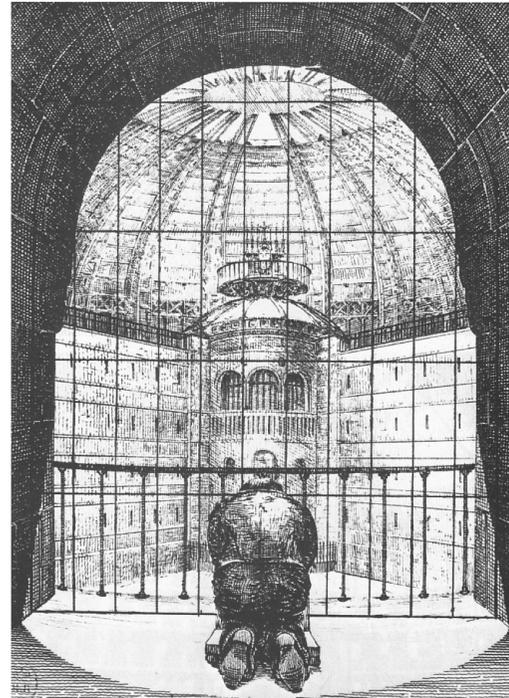
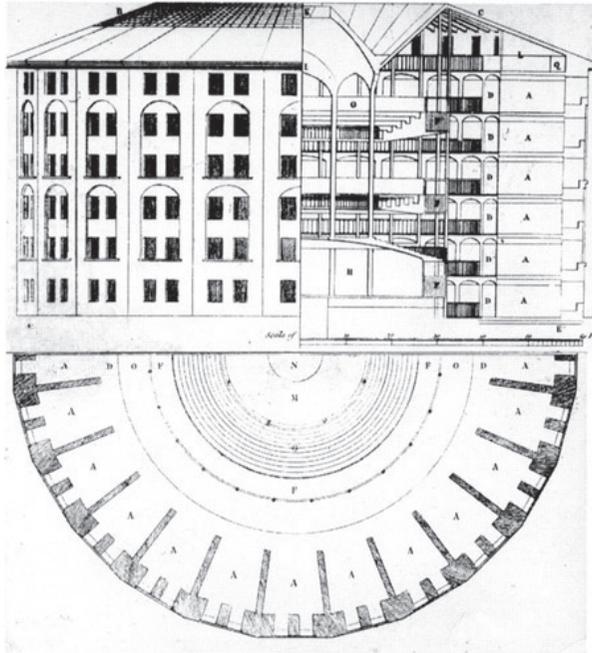
In the 18th century Lelièvre made a proposal for the development of Nancy. It is one of the first examples of a proposal for a city that does not try to define an ideal order but operates with the knowledge of the city as an ever changing environment. Time has entered into the calculus of urban planning.

The question of circulation is as always of prime importance. The ordering and segmentation is developed with the intent of creating the best possible circulation. Different flows are handled, some negative, some positive. The fortifications of the city had been demolished thus leaving the city open to everybody. This posed a security problem as well as improving conditions for the flow of goods and allowing the city to expand.



Menagerie at Versailles, Le Vau, 1662. An array of exotic animals was displayed at the menagerie and observed from the central pavilion.

A DIAGRAM FOR MODERN SOCIETY



Proposal for a panopticon prison,
Jeremy Bentham, 1791

The central tower had blinds that prevented the prisoners from seeing the observer. The distribution worked no matter the intentions of the observer and even if the tower was empty. The function is to invert the gaze of the prisoner into an act of self-scrutiny.

The panopticon machine produces a suitable identity precisely through the act of self-scrutiny performed by the prisoner himself.

Antiquity was a society of the spectacle. It sought to render visible the inspection of a small number of objects to a multitude of men. Modernity is posed with the opposite problem: How to produce for a small number, and even for a single individual, the instantaneous view of a multitude. It represents a reversal of the spectacle.

The modern society is not one of spectacle but of surveillance!



Koepel Prison in Arnhem, 1880-86



Presidio Modelo in Cuba. Built around 1955

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PANOPTICON

The panoptic machine is instrumental in the fabrication of individuals!

What seems the most private, our identity, is in fact produced by the panoptic machine. The panoptic machine fabricates the illusion that we have a specific identity and deceives us into partaking in its fabrication through self-scrutiny. The disciplinary society needs identities, it needs them in order to tune and optimise the system. It operates by investigating the bodies in depth and the circuits of communication (in the panopticon represented by the unhindered visibility of the subjects) are the supports of accumulation and centralization of knowledge. It produces an archive of information.

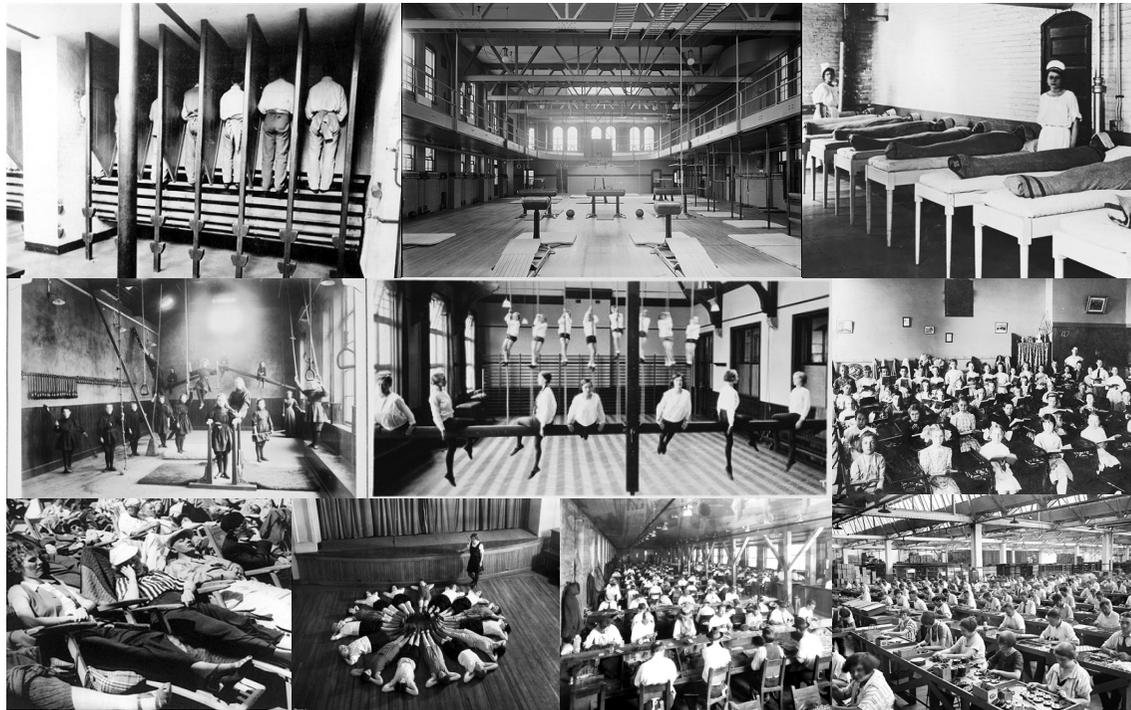
It is a laboratory experimenting on human behaviour!.

1. *The functional inversion of the disciplines.* The aim is not just to restrict but to produce. It introduces bodies into machinery and forces into economy. Its aim is still to ensure moral behaviour but first and foremost the aim is to optimise the flows and production of the system.
2. *The swarming of disciplinary mechanisms.* The disciplines become de-institutionalized. They leave the strict confines of the disciplinary institutions and probe the urban matrix. The schools are ways of monitoring the parents and hospitals probe the health and living conditions of society.
3. *The state-control of the mechanism of discipline.* The dissemination of the disciplines are simultaneously connected to apparatuses of state-control. The police is the most important one but other groups such as welfare organisation, religious groups and others perform the monitoring of society. The police must pay interest to the smallest of details and events in the social organism. It deals with and monitors everyday life.

The overall aim of disciplinary society is to optimise output at a minimal expenditure!

“In a word, the disciplines are the ensemble of minute technical inventions that made it possible to increase the useful size of multiplicities by decreasing the inconveniences of the power which, in order to make them useful, must control them. A multiplicity, whether in a workshop or a nation, an army or a school, reaches the threshold of a discipline when the relation of the one to the other becomes favourable.”

DOCILE BODIES AND THE MEANS OF CORRECT TRAINING



The images show examples of treadmills, gymnasiums, KDF - tourism, factories, schools and hospitals from the 19th and first part of the 20th century.

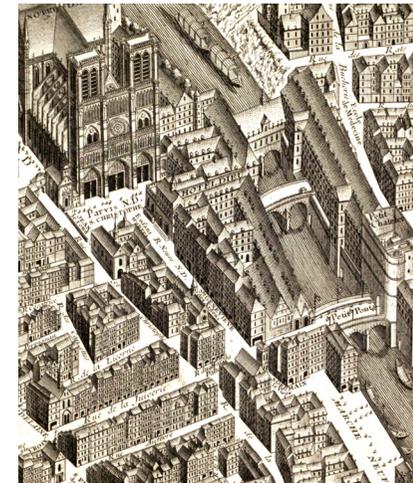
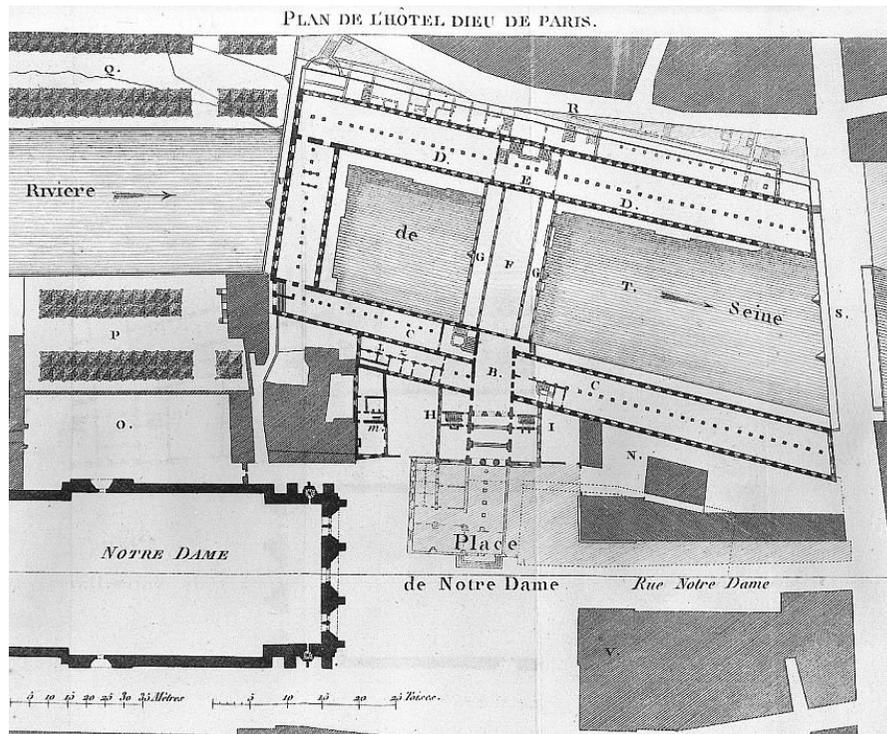
“Discipline may be identified neither with an institution nor with an apparatus; it is a type of power, a modality for its exercise, comprising a whole set of instruments, techniques, procedures, levels of application, targets; it is a ‘physics’ or an ‘anatomy’ of power, a technology.”

Power cannot be separated from the relations of the particular distribution. For instance there are not modes of production and relations of power. They are completely integrated. The institutions are simultaneously laboratories and vessels developing and disseminating disciplines in the city.

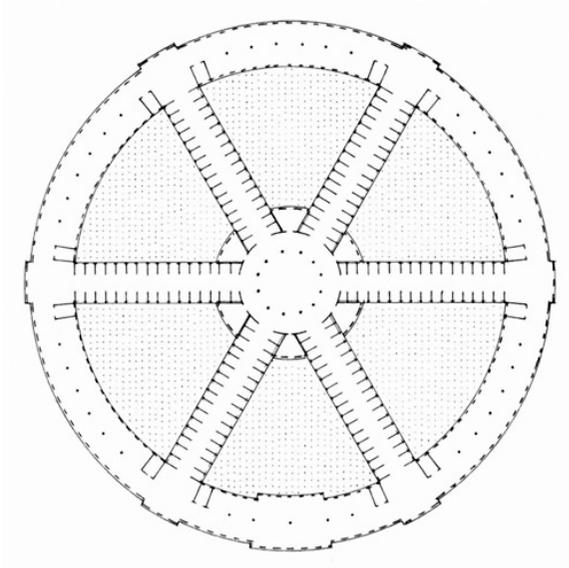
A NEW HOSPITAL FOR PARIS



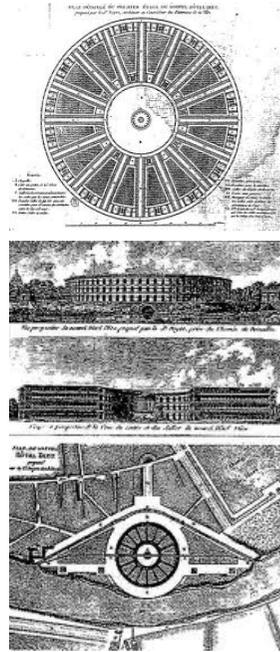
Ile de la Cité, c.1754



Hôtel-Dieu in Paris was originally constructed during the middle ages. Patients were given little and insufficient care and kept under appalling conditions with high mortality rates. There was a complete lack of separation of patients with infectious diseases from the rest, there were three patients in each bed etc.



Antione Petit



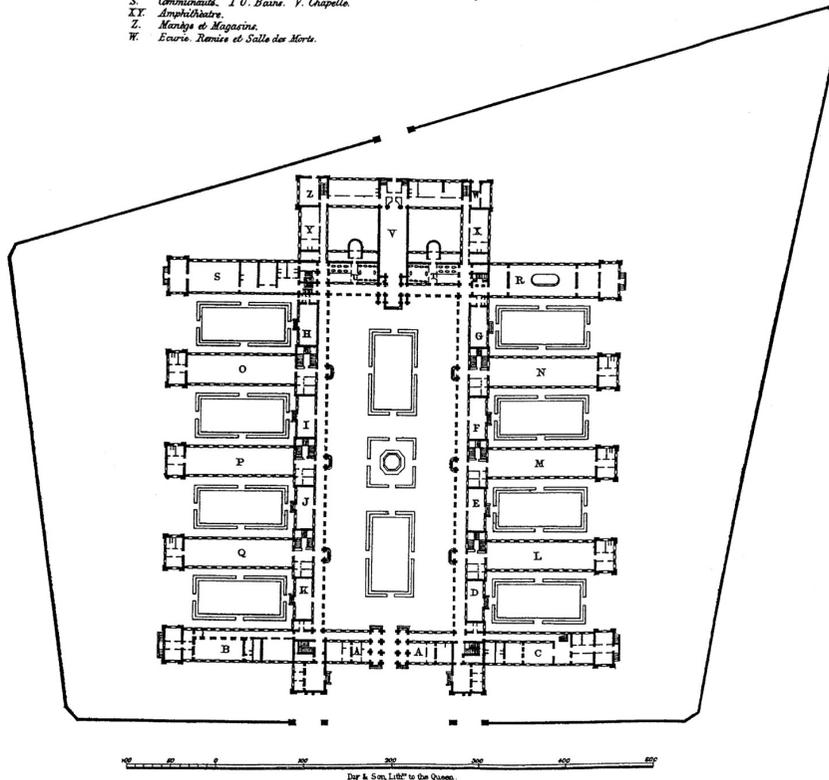
Poyet

Different proposals for a new Hôtel-Dieu developed at the end of the 18th century.

The enlightenment projects were often reliant upon certain geometries for instance the circle. The proposals of Petit and Poyet struggle with the insertion of a perfect geometry in the city. However, the panoptic mechanism is not a question of circular geometry. It operates through surveillance, segmentation and the definition of activities. The diagram of the panopticon is not a question of certain forms but of specific modes of distributing.

PARIS
Hopital de Lariboisière
 612 Liets.

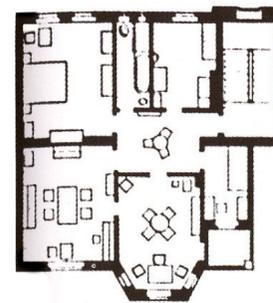
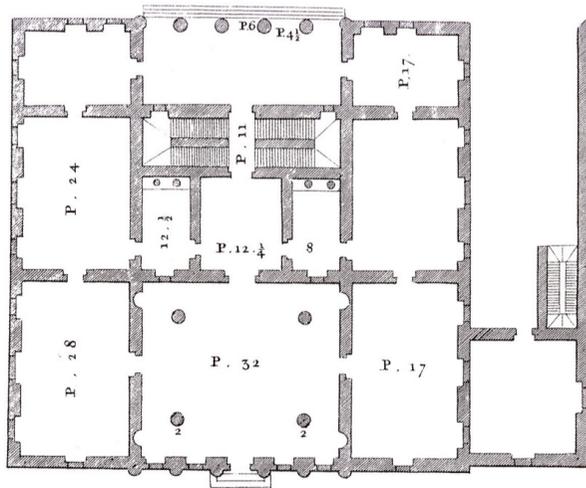
- A. Bureau.
- B. à ras de chaussée Gaière, au 1^{er} Etage Logements d'employés; au 2nd Etage Dortoirs des Carçons de Service.
- C. idem Pharmacie. idem idem idem Chambres des Elèves internes.
- DEFGHIJK. Chauffage.
- L.M.N.O.P.Q. Stations de Malades.
- R. à ras de chaussée Boulevard, au 1^{er} Etage Lingerie; au 2nd Etage Dortoirs des Filles de Service.
- S. Ammoniat. T. V. Bain. Y. Chapelle.
- XY. Amphithéâtre.
- Z. Manège et Magasin.
- W. Ecurie, Remise et Salle des Morts.



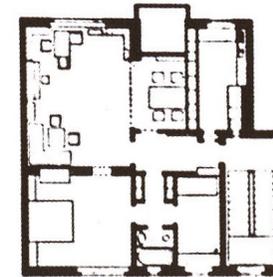
The Laboirisière Hospital is the first in Paris to use principles developed in medicine. It is inspired by the English naval hospital and the way it separates patients from each other minimizing the risk of contagion. It is placed within the city. The patients are in a sense placed in a state of quarantine awaiting reentry into society.

The invention and refinement of the corridor takes place throughout the 18th and 19th centuries. It is an important micro technique of power allowing the separation of rooms from the network of circulation thus facilitating the definition of specific functions.

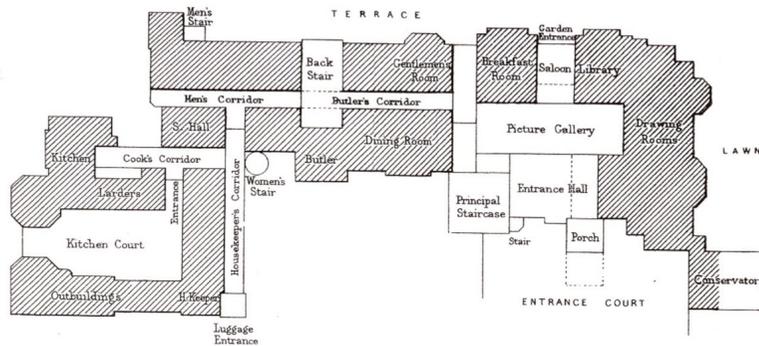
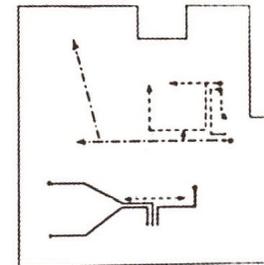
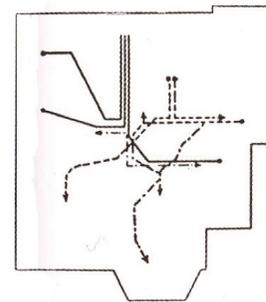
Hôtel de Laboirisière, Gauthier, 1839-54.



A. Bad Example



B. Good Example



15. The Functional House for Frictionless living, by Alexander Klein, 1928. Klein's methods and conclusions were highly praised by Catherine Baur in her influential work, *Modern Housing* (1935).



Hopital de Lariboisière, Paris

FROM EXCEPTIONAL DISCIPLINE TO GENERAL SURVEILLANCE

The overall development of the modern institution in the 19th century moves from exceptional discipline to general surveillance.

1. At one extreme the discipline-blockade: It is the enclosed institution poised on the edge of society enclosing the incurable, arresting evil or dealing with the aspects of the population that needs a specific and highly controllable environment: It is represented by asylums for the insane, prisons, the army and others.

2. At the other end the discipline-mechanism: It improves the exercise of power by making it lighter, more mobile. It propagates a subtle coercion.

In this form the modern institutions are carrying micro techniques that they insert into the urban fabric. Schools, hospitals, and other institutions constitute a network of panopticons spread over the city. The schools are not just working upon the pupils but partake in the surveillance of the parents. The hospitals monitor the habits and vices of the population and so on.

The techniques of government are disseminated into every fabric of human life. The surveillance is first and foremost directed towards everyday life. The strength of discipline is precisely that it is integrated - barely visible.

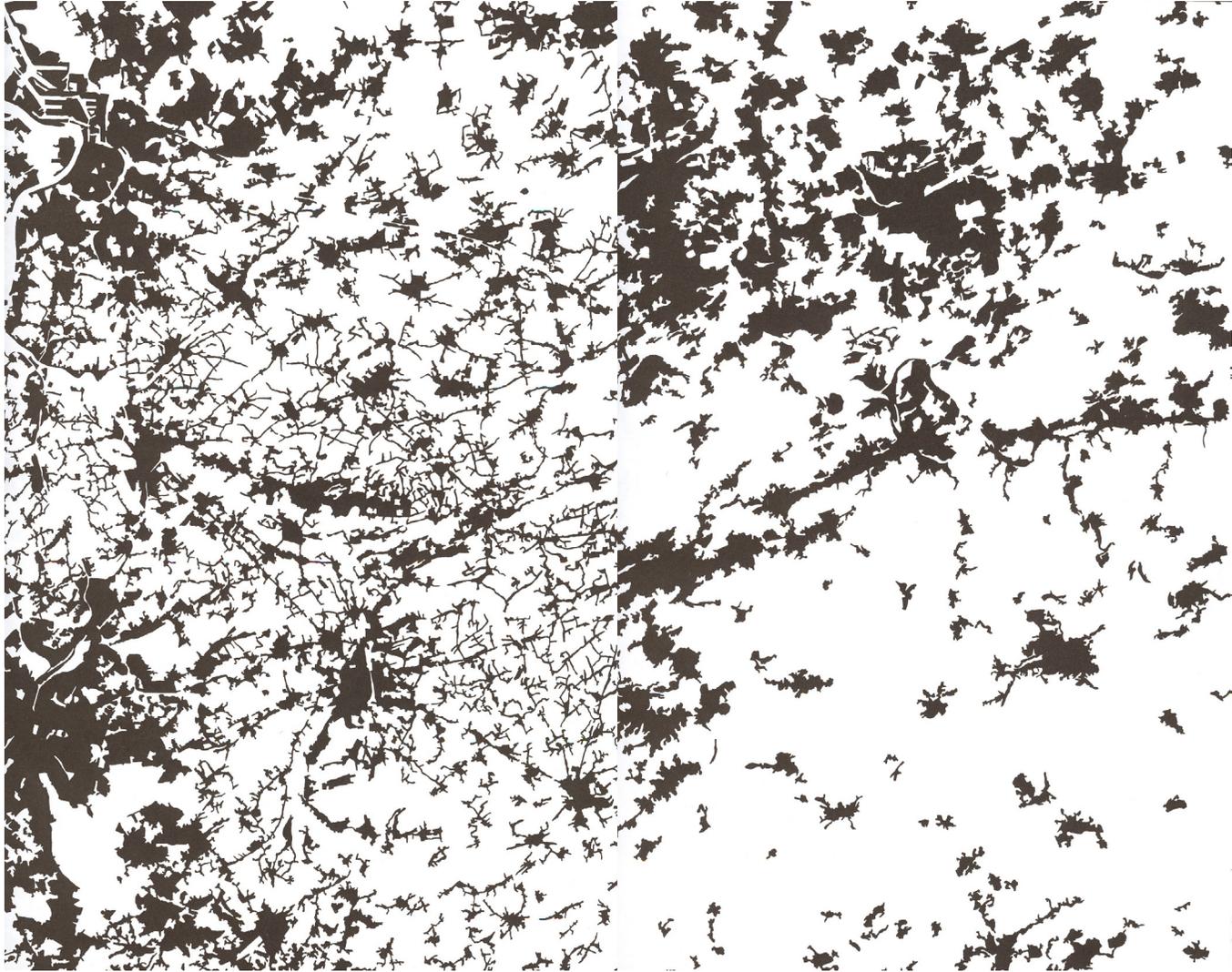
THE TECHNOPOLE OF AKADEMGORODOK (ACADEMIC VILLAGE)



Akademgorodok was constructed on pristine ground in the late fifties in Novosibirsk. It was designed with the American campus as a model. It was intended to combine the production of knowledge with the development of industry in the region.



The construction of the new city suffered all kinds of set-backs due to its remote location and the hostility from the local administration in Novosibirsk. It never the less constituted a haven for groups of Moscow scientist suffering under the rigidity of ideological control in the capital. In early years they managed to create a culture of unprecedented freedom - in many ways an exemplary academy.



STATE OF EXEPTION

The contemporary city has destroyed the notion of city as architecture. The spatial organisation of architecture is not an important medium compared to more mobile techniques better capable of distributing the flows of the network. The diminished importance of architecture as spatial organisation is mirrored by a tremendous proliferation of dispositives much better capable of dealing with the complexity of the contemporary urban matrix.

The current art of government thrives on a permanent state of crisis. It has abandoned the rigid demand for a tight correspondence between the norms of the disciplinary society and the life forms. Consequently it does rely on spatial organisation taking place in an empty space. It is rather like the furnishing of a dynamic territory.

It operates on the crowd through statistical analysis and evaluate behaviours according to normality (a statistical concept) rather than fixed norms.

The subtle coercion of the dispositives of security lies in the fact that government has developed into self-government. Each individual has taken on the responsibility for governing him- or herself believing it is a matter of free choice. The rigidity of identity suitable for a more stable society is substituted for the flexibility of self-administered competence.