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Review of *The Calgary Project: Urban Form/Urban Life.* By Beverly A. Sandalack and Andrei Nicolai.

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more largely on M. R. G. Conzen's approach to townscape analysis, the authors explore the material manifestations and spatial logics that mark Calgary's different periods of growth.

The original and most compelling contribution of the work lies in its systematic documentation and representation in two and three dimensions of the built landscape at different levels of spatial resolution, from the city as a whole, to the evolving settlement configurations of the various suburbs, and down to the platting, architectural vocabulary and syntax, and the resulting streetscapes. Combined with a rich iconography, these representations trace a systematic repertory of Calgary's built landscapes (i.e., the city's morphology). They allow the reader to reflect on how the planning ideas, the purposeful development practices, and the inevitable social and economic forces and contingencies have combined to produce a contrasted cityscape, more complex, considering the city's young age, than the authors initially thought.

At times, the book is slightly formulaic and repetitive, as each new period, for instance, offers the reader an update on the development of water, sewer, and power infrastructure. Although a welcome, well-illustrated update on the evolution of the central business core at each period of development is somewhat rudimentary, the quality of the information displayed in the maps and 3D models points to the possibility of a detailed analysis of the process of morphological transformations. Similarly, the author's insistence on drawing lessons from the existing landscape based on preconceived notions of good design, along with their aim to see these lessons serve as foundations for future city planning and design efforts, dilutes their potential theoretical contribution. Notwithstanding these reservations, the *Calgary Project* displays undeniable qualities and is a must-read for mid-size city planners and planners in training, as well as for anybody interested in the history and prospect of Canada's fastest-growing prairie city.

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The Calgary Project: Urban Form/Urban Life. By Beverly A. Sandalack and Andrei Nicolai. Calgary, AB: University of Calgary Press, 2006. ix + 209 pp. Maps, illustrations, photographs, appendixes, references. $29.95 paper.

The Calgary Project is an ambitious narrative. In eight chapters and two appendixes, the authors set about tracing the historical and spatial evolution of Calgary, aiming at drawing conclusions that could inform its planning in the future. The city's development is portrayed through five periods, unfolding from the establishment of a small North West Mounted Police Fort in 1875 to our times. Each period is featured in a chapter that opens with a discussion of the ideas, plans, and planning practices of the time, followed by a discussion of the "spatial structure" of the urbanized areas, and concludes with an illustrated analysis of characteristic urban and architectural forms. Drawing loosely on Kevin Lynch's cityscape analysis categories and