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The physical impoverishment and decay of Danish villages

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Published in:

VIII Nordic-Scottish Conference on Rural and Regional Development

Publication date:

2005

Document Version

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

[Link to publication from Aalborg University](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

Møller, J. (2005). The physical impoverishment and decay of Danish villages: causes and consequences. In VIII Nordic-Scottish Conference on Rural and Regional Development: Conference proceedings Háskólinn á Akureyri.

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VIII NORDIC-SCOTTISH CONFERENCE ON RURAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Akureyri, Iceland 22 – 25 September 2005

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ABSTRACT

Title: The physical impoverishment and decay of the Danish villages. Causes and consequences.

For the latest 30 years the physical environment (buildings, gardens, roads and spaces, etc.) in the Danish villages has undergone drastic changes. Many villages near the large towns are drowned in growth and modern buildings, and other villages in the Danish outskirts are hit by decline and physical impoverishment and decay. I shall concentrate on the last-mentioned villages in this abstract.

The conference paper will contain the following problems

A short analysis of the social-structural development forces which imply great changes in the physical environment of the villages. I shall deal with both residences and production buildings and try to understand which are the causes that so many Danish outskirt villages are impoverished purely physically with still increasing haste these years.

When the causes are illustrated I shall discuss the consequences of the physical impoverishment in the villages on a social level, a regional and local authority level as well as the local level, including a discussion of the Danish rural district policy before and after the re-adjustment of the farm subsidypolicy in the EU.