

A divided city centre and its dynamic.

The case of Stockholm

Central Spaces.
Perspectives on the modern city centre after 1850.
Odense, September 14, 2011

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Sergels torg

A square for demonstrations, celebrations, drug dealings ...
and using the underground



Stureplan

The heart of the Stockholm glamour zone

A cultural landscape of divisions

SERGELS TORG

- Modernism
- Welfare state
- Suburbia
- H & M
- Market for stolen goods
- The Sewer
- Heroine
- Losers
- Low
- Stigma

STUREPLAN

- Post modernism
- Entrepreneurial urbanism
- Inner city
- Gucci
- High finance
- Bright Lights
- Cocaine
- Winners
- High
- Charisma

Working metonymies

- ◉ Between the best and the worst:
Sharpening the contrast
- ◉ Generalising the contemporary divide:
the Western & the Eastern parts of
the Stockholm CBD
- ◉ Recognising its deep historical roots: The
popular & bourgeoisie city centre halves

Reading time in (physical) space

- ◉ Deciphering the historical layers of the present: the contemporaneity of the untemporaneous
- ◉ The capital of a Great Power:
The 17th century grid
- ◉ The bourgeoisie city and the city centre transplant
- ◉ The social city and The Huge City Centre
Renewal

The city centre as place

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- Place: spacing and encoding in process

One place, or several places?

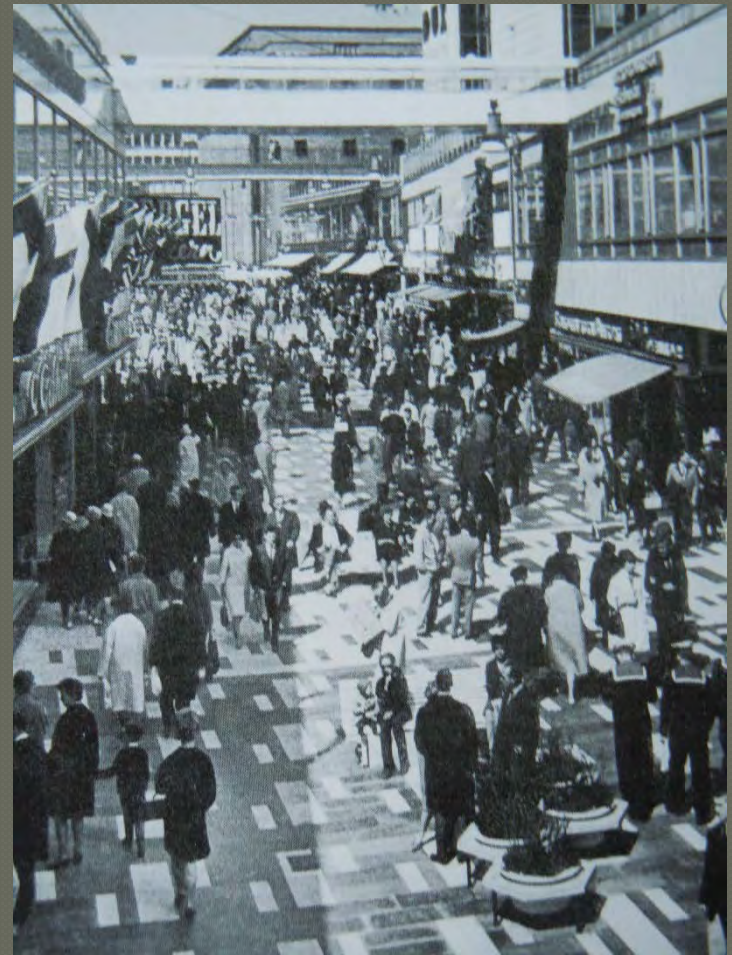
- ◉ *One* cultural landscape of divisions
- ◉ A cultural formation
- ◉ Two poles ...
 - The relational constitution of place: spacing and encoding
 - The dialectic
 - Inversions
- ◉ ... and the scalar play

Constructing the new city centre

- The underground
 - Bulldozer
 - Accessibility maker
- Left and gone
 - Architecturally
 - Economically
 - Culturally
- The traffic imperative:
More than the underground!



Modernist shopping



The new CBD: Main users

◉ Retail

- Department stores
- Retail chains

◉ Public offices

- State departments
- Bank of Sweden

◉ Private offices: Bank offices, head quarters etcetera

◉ In between: Kulturhuset

A sunken plaza: Sergels torg

THE GRAND DESIGN



JESUS AT THE BORDER



The making of a stigmatised place

- ◉ Where the action is, or the hang out for young Stockholm
 - The suburbs and the underground
 - The movie I: Life is fun
- ◉ The relocation of the drug traffic
 - The formation of Swedish drug policy
 - The drug icon
 - The movie II: The tragedy
 - Prostitution & stolen goods retailing

...a stigmatised place (continued)

- ◉ Where the public is:
Demonstrations, celebrations
 - The new left in a global world
 - New age and religion
 - Celebrating national sport victories
- ◉ The mundane, everyday world, or a modernist scene for the routine life
- ◉ On balance: “Plattan” or “The Slab” (?)

Intermediate reflection

- ◉ Temporality I: From Fordism to Post Fordism
 - The interregnum
 - The successful new economy
 - *Demonstrating* luxury consumption
- ◉ Temporality II: Investments in the city ring: renewal dynamics
 - 1980's: Kungsgatan
 - 1990's: The Golden Triangle (Stureplan)
 - 2000's: Gallerian
 - And back to Sergel City?

The glamour zone

- The rebirth of the bourgeoisie city
 - 1967: The right hand traffic reform
 - Permanenting urban decay?!
 - The moment: The remaking of Stureplan and the opening of Sturegallerian 1989
- An exceptional spatial concentration of glamour – but not on an exceptional level

The popular meeting point

THE MUSHROOM 1938



PEACE! 1945



In the glamour zone 1



In the glamour zone 2



In the glamour zone 3



The normalisation of demonstrative glamour

- ◉ From middle class horror to middle class prestige, but how?
- ◉ To be turned down:
 - The people's home ideal, or the democratic imperative
 - Keeping business power discreet
- ◉ Or turned around!
 - The trick of self stigmatisation
 - A suitable moment

Continuity and change: a longer perspective

- ◉ The spatial constant: The East-West Divide
- ◉ Moving in the city circle: The poles of High and Low
 - Between the wars: Hötorget & Norrmalmstorg
 - Post WWII: The popular pole moves south
 - The Post-Fordist era: The High Pole moves north
- ◉ Stureplan as a (once) popular place, or the importance of being a traffic node

How stable is the contemporary cultural landscape?

- ◉ Investment moves: going west
 - The best office locations
 - New hotels
- ◉ Glamour zone: “democratisation” tendencies
- ◉ Sergels torg under attack
 - The underground
 - The new tramway
- ◉ The peculiarities of the Stockholm urban regime: implications for the city centre