

Conflict in Cities



CONFLICT IN CITIES AND THE CONTESTED STATE

Everyday life and the possibilities for transformation in Belfast,
Jerusalem and other divided cities

ANNUAL REPORT 2009

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CONFLICT IN CITIES AND THE CONTESTED STATE

Annual Report March 2009

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Introduction

By the time of the Advisory Council Annual Meeting in March 2009, we shall be halfway through the second year of 'Conflict in Cities and the Contested State'. The past twelve months of the Project have been like Janus, looking inward to allow consolidation of the team structures, and concurrently, projecting an outward gaze to investigate like-minded projects and recruit new partners.

The research groups in each of the three Universities – Cambridge, Exeter and Queen's Belfast – are now well established. In September 2008, seven postgraduate students joined Conflict in Cities, completing the remaining part of the Project team. One new RA was hired at Queen's. As the Project grows, it has been necessary to encourage bonding at all levels across the university teams, including students, researchers and investigators. Our first International Workshop, held in Belfast in September 08, provided an important opportunity to make contacts and discuss the first year's research. Throughout the year, aided by various electronic means as well as face to face meetings, we have instituted a regular schedule of discussions amongst the various groups in Conflict in Cities.

At the same time, we are very aware of the need to look and learn beyond our own research. The devastating attacks on Mumbai have once again shown the centrality and vulnerability of cities on the world stage. Strong response to our own website points to international interest in our work. In collaboration with other bodies in our universities, we have been able to host visiting research partners, welcoming Professor Salim Tamari to Cambridge, Professor Oren Yiftachel to Queen's, and Alessandro Petti to Exeter. Our own members have visited related academic and user groups, including the Cities and Fragile States Research Centre at the London School of Economics, the Jerusalem NGO Bimkom – Planners for Planning Rights, the University of Windsor's Jerusalem Old City Initiative, the EU's Open City Project, and the RIBA's Future Cities Group.

Once again, we are pleased to present this Annual Report. We are grateful to the ESRC Large Grants Programme for its support and to the members of the Advisory Council for their interest in Conflict in Cities and the Contested State.

Wendy Pullan
Principal Investigator

Conflict in Cities and the Contested State

'Conflict in Cities and the Contested State' focuses on divided cities as key sites in territorial conflicts over state and national identities, cultures and borders. The research objectives are to analyse how divided cities in Europe and the Middle East have been shaped by ethnic, religious and national conflicts, and conversely, how such cities can absorb, resist and potentially play a role in transforming the territorial conflicts, which pervade and surround them. The project seeks to understand divided cities as arenas of intensified ethno-national conflicts, particularly with respect to the role that architecture and the urban fabric play as a setting and background for everyday activities and events. Phenomena related to creating, maintaining, crossing, transcending, and possibly ignoring ethnic and territorial borders, both physical and symbolic, are central to the study. The main research sites are Belfast and Jerusalem, two very distinctive cities - one firmly embedded in the West and one central to the Middle East - and both at different stages of national conflict and peace building.

A team of researchers from three UK universities, Cambridge, Exeter and Queen's Belfast, are leading the multi-disciplinary initiative that includes: architecture, urban studies, politics, geography and sociology. Teams reflecting the divisions being researched are carrying out work in situ in Belfast and Jerusalem. Seven PhD students have been attached to the programme since September 2008 and, in conjunction with an international network of academics and practitioners, are working on the divided cities of Brussels, Berlin, Mostar, Nicosia, Berlin, Beirut, Tripoli and Kirkuk. Within this overall project framework a contextual and comparative approach is being developed to explore wider issues of urban conflict and the possibilities for resolution.

The research on Belfast and Jerusalem is organised in a series of relatively self-contained modules (*Figure 1*), which allow a degree of flexibility for using different disciplinary approaches and methodologies as appropriate to each city and topic area. However, the modules share the same objectives and themes and those in one city have a number of closely related counterparts in the other.

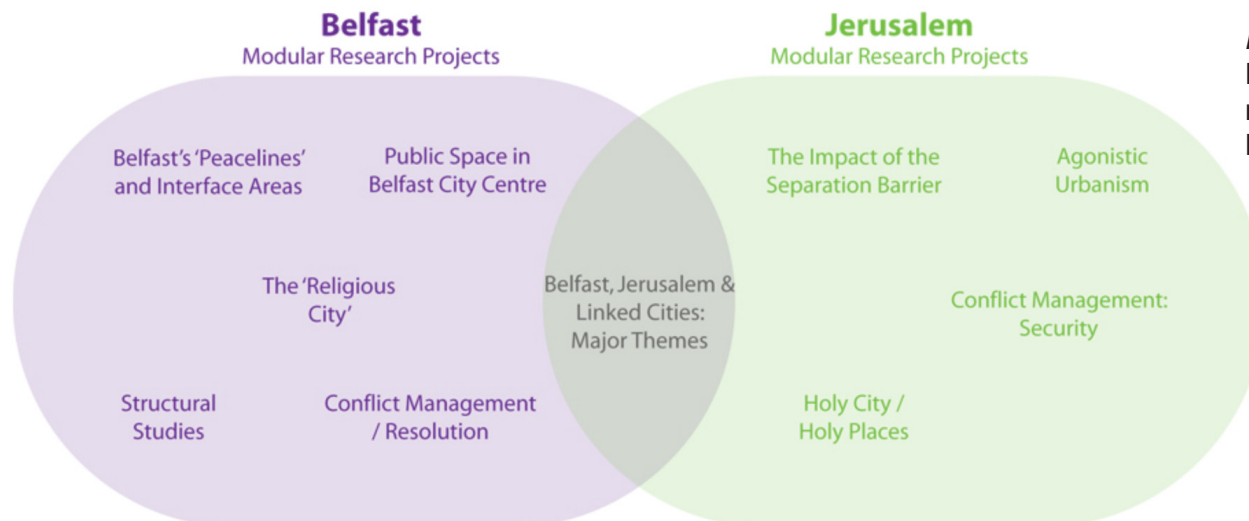


Figure 1
Diagram representing
modular research projects for
Belfast and Jerusalem

Belfast Research Modules

B1. Structural Studies

These studies build on the wealth of existing research on Belfast, including previous work by team members, to produce a new synthesis, updated during the course of the project. Research topics cover:

- 1. The geopolitical context and categories of city.*
- 2. The changing built environment and socio-economic structures of Belfast.*
- 3. Belfast's political demography: ethno-national populations, segregation and mixing.*

B2. Belfast's 'Peacelines'

This module focuses on key spatial separation barriers or zones between the different ethno-national groups. Belfast's 'peacelines', and more generally interface areas without purpose-built barriers, will be examined in terms of border-maintenance and border-crossing practices in everyday life. Key issues include how planners, police, army, paramilitaries and local communities have related to them; and how they evolved and developed during the 'Troubles' - including how and why they recently increased in number and extent despite, or perhaps because of, the cessation of overt military conflict in the mid-1990s, but also attempts to reduce their divisive effects.

B3. The 'Religious' City

This module focuses on how religion in everyday life serves to claim, demarcate and divide urban space throughout Belfast urban area. It studies the extent to which 'religion' has 'retreated' from the city centre as religious sites are desecrated, abandoned or given over to secular purposes, and it explores the boundaries where the 'neutral' city centre bleeds into religiously-demarcated communal space. The location, development and implications of new 'religious' space will be monitored and evaluated over the five years of the project.

B4. From Conflict Management to Conflict Resolution

This module focuses on a spectrum of different approaches to conflict management/resolution in Belfast. These approaches range from policing strategies, to the agonistic channelling of urban conflicts. There is a particular concentration on instances of joint activities around non-national issues which span the ethnic and territorial divides of the national conflict; and an emphasis on the potential of 'resolution' strategies involving dialogue, mixing and co-operative ventures across ethno-national borders, now that Belfast is in a 'post-ceasefire' stage of conflict and given that the belated implementation of the 1998 Belfast Agreement brings new possibilities (and perhaps new difficulties) in transcending the traditional terms of the conflict.

B5. Public Space in Belfast City Centre

In divided cities, the central areas (however delimited) are widely assumed to constitute 'neutral space' in the everyday life of the city. The module explores this assumption in Belfast's case. In particular it focuses on the uses and recent transformations of public space in the city-centre; and on how it is structured and managed to avoid conflict and to allow for engagement with the 'other side', by various agents including city officials and planners, children and parents, males and females, with particular attention given to the gender and generational dimensions of public space.

Belfast Research Report

The main focus of the Belfast team so far has been modules B1 and B5. Each of these modules approaches the overall research theme from the two different ends of the spectrum, which spans the structural analysis of urban transformation to the analysis of everyday life. Module B1 is concerned with developing a theoretically informed research framework within which the concept of 'divided cities' can be understood, and with studying the influence of different kinds of structural transition (political, economic and cultural) on ethno-national divisions in the changing built environment of Belfast. Module B5 on the other hand, explores the intersection of gender, class and ethno-national tensions in the everyday lives of mothers of pre-school children. Both modules have employed semi-structured one-to-one interviews.

Module B1.1: The Geopolitical Context: Empires, States and Cities

Module B1.1 has so far focused mostly on preparing a general theoretical framework for understanding the concept of 'divided cities'. Two kinds of output are foreseen: outputs to date include Working Paper 1 'From Empires to ethno-national conflicts – Part I of a framework for studying divided cities' and Part II, 'Intersections of Imperial, National and Urban Space', which is being readied for publication in the series. In addition, a 2,000-word extended draft 'abstract' for a proposed co-authored book has been prepared. The book will focus on our entire set of 'divided cities'. Other team members who work on Jerusalem and the 'linked cities' will be contributing to it with ideas about conceptualising their cities and conflicts, and about how the issues involved are best understood. The proposed title of the book is, *Cities and Ethno-national Conflict: Empire, Nation and Urban Space*. This book is about understanding ethno-nationally 'divided' cities in 'contested' states. It is about cities, which are embroiled in long-running conflicts over changing or confirming existing state and national borders. Primarily it focuses on how the cities and conflicts interact. How should we understand the ways in which cities and city life are shaped by ethno-national conflict? And, conversely, how do we assess the ways the city and its citizens shape such conflicts, whether for better or worse, or in fact both? Cities are major sites of struggle, which can intensify conflict, but - and for some of the same reasons - everyday city life has considerable potential for conflict reduction. Implicit at the very least in studies of conflict, there are issues of conflict management or resolution. Inevitably the book is about understanding the general characteristics and intractability of ethno-national conflict - how the past weighs on the present, yet with the possibility that living people can make their own history in new ways. And our understandings have to encompass the 'contested' states and surrounding states system.

Module B1.2: The Changing Built Environment and Socio-Economic Structures of Belfast

The research focus of module B1.2 is how changes in the built environment in Belfast in the last decade are interacting with 'ethno-national' conflict and division. We have identified three types of structural transition: (1) capital accumulation and capitalist change; (2) transition in political governance; (3) and cultural change. Each of these has its own logic of transformation: capitalist change is associated with an economic transformation driven primarily by a property development boom, manifested in a dramatic regeneration of the built environment. The changes in political governance are underlined both by the logic of governance within the UK as a whole (especially in relation to planning and public-private partnerships) and also driven by the peace process. Finally,

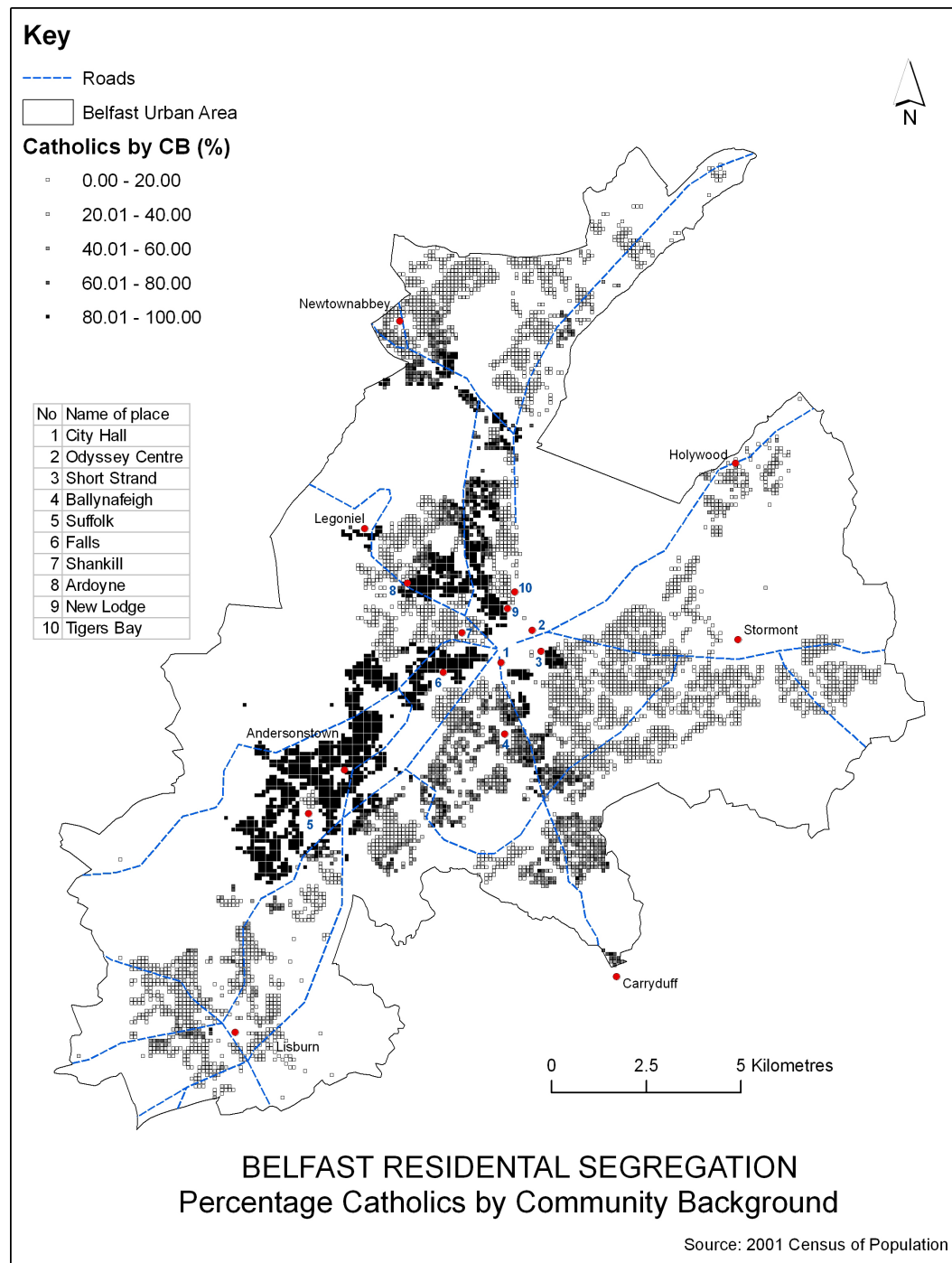


Figure 2
Belfast Residential Segregation

the logic of cultural change is underlined by the end of political violence and the restructuring of ethno-national division and its representation. We have chosen to explore the relationships between these types of structural transition via a series of case studies of physical regeneration in Belfast. The cases decided upon include: Crumlin Rd Gaol and Girdwood Barracks regeneration scheme, Titanic Quarter, Gasworks Park and Gaeltacht Quarter. Fieldwork has started in May 2008 and has so far included conducting interviews with members of the Advisory Panel for the Crumlin Rd Gaol Masterplan and creating case study files with all available in the public domain documentation on the individual cases (masterplans, public consultation reports, responses, assessments and media reports). Through the study of documents and interviews we ask how the different dynamics of structural transformation are expressed through, and shaped by, changes in the physical and spatial environment. Here the evolution of the physical environment of the city is itself considered both a tool for, and a stake in, the types of structural change identified above.

Module B5: Public Space in Belfast City Centre

The aim of the research is to qualitatively explore how mothers of pre-school children perceive, conceive and use city spaces, neighbourhoods and the city centre, in their everyday lives. Appreciating the intersections of gender, class and ethno-national tensions, the study focuses on working class women living in four ethno-nationally distinct residential areas situated close to the 'neutral' space of the city centre. The research strategy includes three stages: Ethnographic Fieldwork, inclusive of: familiarisation with and observation of city spaces; and observation of neighbourhood-based activities for pre-school children and their carers, organised by community groups, schools, Sure Start, and libraries. This strategy has been key to generating access to potential interviewees. The research work for this stage has begun in November 2008 and will be ongoing throughout this academic year including:

1) Semi-Structured One-to-One Interviews (January – March): For this aspect of the research an initial target of 20 women (4 from each area) has been reached and exceeded. It is likely that a sample of 30+ interviews will be completed by the end of March. To date, 22 one-to-one interviews, 1 group and 2 joint interviews have been conducted.

2) Self-Directed Photography and Interview (March – May). Interviewees are currently being recruited through Stage 2 to take photographic images of their everyday lives in the city (centre and neighbourhood). This stage is scheduled to begin in March/April.



Figure 3
A mural for the Ulster Freedom Fighters on a gable end in the Loyalist neighbourhood of Sandy Row



Figure 4
Mural on the Ardoyne comparing the 2001 walk to the Holy Cross School with the American civil rights march at the University of Arkansas in 1957

Jerusalem Research Modules

J1. The Impact of the Separation Barrier

This study will investigate the impact of the separation barrier or wall and its related infrastructures of security and control, by returning to the areas researched by 'Conflict in Cities' Projects 1 & 2 (2003-2005) before the wall was built and completed as well as some other sites that reveal the wall's influence on the city. Attention will be directed at the (re)use of land and public space, the significance of mobility or its absence, changes in interactions, clashes and segregation between Israelis and Palestinians, alterations in planning, policy and infrastructure as well as security and policing, and evidence of Palestinian resilience and resistance on a daily basis.

J2. Holy City / Holy Places

This module will consider the uses, control, architecture, symbolic meaning and politicisation of a selection of holy places, and their role in the creation and preservation of the city centre, and their influence in both the state and extra-state organisations. It will also look at the larger religious topography in the wider city, e.g. procession routes, religious quarters and neighbourhoods, religious tourism and its infrastructure, and religious consumerism.

J3. Agonistic Urbanism

This module addresses the question of ongoing and productive conflict. This has implications for any peace process that tends to focus only on a solution or a recognisable end to the conflict. Exploring how certain levels of conflict may be maintained, the research draws on the notion of agon, constructive struggle or conflict, rooted in ancient ideas of urban life and practice. The aim is to investigate how agon can be reincorporated with the city in order to understand whether conflict in modern contested cities can be channelled in a constructive sense. Especially the capacity of the city to reciprocally absorb and structure conflict will be addressed in what may be called agonistic urbanism.

J4. Conflict Management and Security

This module will study the evolution of systems of physical control, surveillance and policing in a city where a large minority does not recognise the legitimacy of the sovereignty or presence of the dominant community. It will include the study of the range of overt and covert control techniques from the control features in planning and zoning, the creation of multiple borders through the differentiated provision of municipal services, social services and policing, the cooptation of neighbourhood elites, through to the introduction of military operations in a low-intensity conflict.

Jerusalem Research Report

As the politicisation of religious and historic sites in the Old City and environs takes an increasingly high profile, both Cambridge and Exeter teams have focused on Module J2: Holy City/Holy Places. This interest is situated against a background of continuous monitoring of changes in the city due to the impact of the Separation Barrier, Module J1. Some of the J1 observations have produced evidence of urban resistance and have contributed to the first stage of J3: Agonistic Urbanism. Multidisciplinary methodology is an ongoing issue for the project, with the role of visual research being considered in a Working Paper. Since the joint fieldtrip by Cambridge and Exeter in April 2008, Pullan and Larkin have made further trips to Jerusalem in December 2008.

Module J1.1: The Socio-economics of the Old City

In the project's ongoing monitoring of the Israeli policy of closure and the construction of the separation barrier, the socio-economic developments within the Old City have been given special attention. A key research focus is the nature and scope of the multiple connections between the 'Old' and 'New' City. The revival of familial and religious traditions, which interview work and visual analysis of commercial activity along key arterial paths through the Old City have revealed need to be complemented by a detailed micro-economic study of the Old City commercial activities, as well as the research on the Islamic movements undertaken for module J2.2 (see below).



Figure 5
Old City unrest before Friday prayers 2007



Figure 6
Entrance to "David's City" visitors' centre

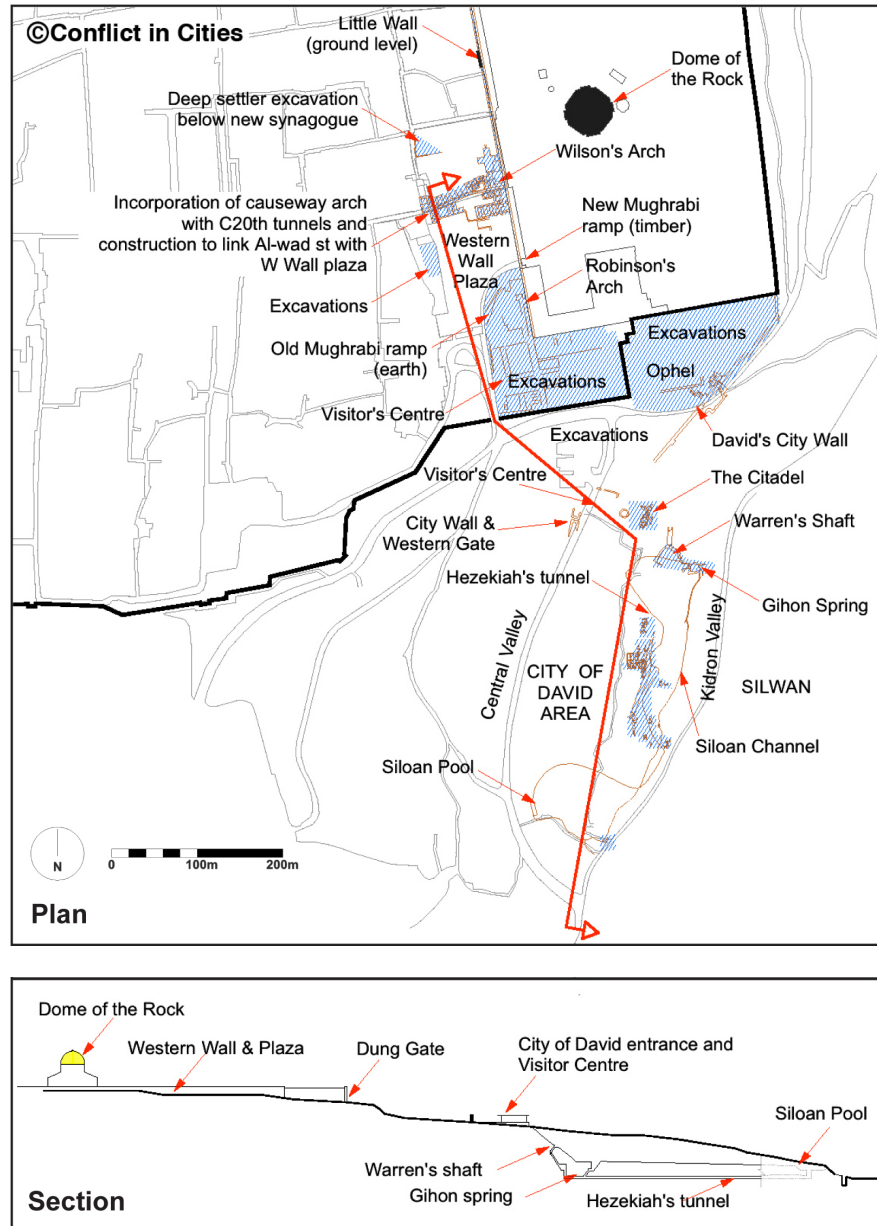


Figure 7

Plan and section of City of David / Silwan with archaeological excavations

Module J1.2: Borders and Governance

The research by Dumper and Larkin has focused on how the separation barrier continues to impact both the dynamic borders and shifting boundaries of the city and the repercussions this inevitably has for future State(s) negotiations. Two papers, soon to be developed into a book chapter and journal article, explore these themes. The first paper examines the concept of the multiple borders of the city, illustrating how by disaggregating the different levels and functions of the borders it is possible to see the way forward for a peace agreement on the city. It highlights how the changing Jewish and Israeli discourse on Jerusalem reveals a much greater flexibility than previously supposed and how the political, security and functional borders of the city have been and remains dynamic. The second paper by Dumper considers in more detail what bearing the different models of the future governance of the city will have upon the inter-state relations following an agreement and vice versa. It argues that if there is to be an agreement over Jerusalem that allows it to exist as a functioning and partially or fully integrated city, it will comprise elements, which will drive the political architecture of the whole agreement between Israel and Palestine. The end result will be a highly coordinated inter-state framework, or a 'two state plus' model.

Module J2.1: The Politicisation of Heritage

A significant theme to emerge from this module is the increasing politicisation of heritage by both Israeli Settler and Palestinian Islamist groups, in attempts to bolster legitimacy, territorial control and popular support. A paper by Pullan and Gwiazda now published as a book chapter analyses settler activities in the 'historic basin' of Jerusalem with a special focus on the 'City of David' archaeological park in Silwan south of the Old City (*Figures 6 & 7*). The study has revealed the novel and damaging effects of the combination of urban design and religious-nationalist heritage stewardship in the hands of state-backed, far right settler organisations in Jerusalem. This investigation is complemented by a second paper by Pullan and Gwiazda to be developed into a journal article, which offers a critical urban analysis of the 'holy basin' as a planning idea. The idea of a special heritage zone, conceived to isolate historic neighbourhoods from the rest of the city and managed under a 'special regime' is an increasingly prominent component of Israeli planning, as well as Israeli and western discourse on negotiations and future agreements. Yet despite its pervasive use, the idea of the holy basin is generally ill defined (functionally and geographically), and remains insufficiently explored in terms of its implications for Jerusalem as a viable city for both ethno-national communities. A third paper by Dumper and Larkin soon to be published as an article examines the role of UNESCO in Jerusalem in the politics of heritage. The paper problematises international heritage interventions in contested cities (*Figure 8*), drawing on comparative case studies of UNESCO projects in Aleppo, Mostar and Kosovo. Although the paper confirms an increased need for an international arbitrator and protector for the city's sacred sites and divided cultural heritage, it also underscores the limitations of UNESCO's legal remit and the political sensitivities that hinder its practice. The paper also draws on in depth interviews with UNESCO officials at their headquarters in Paris (October 2008).

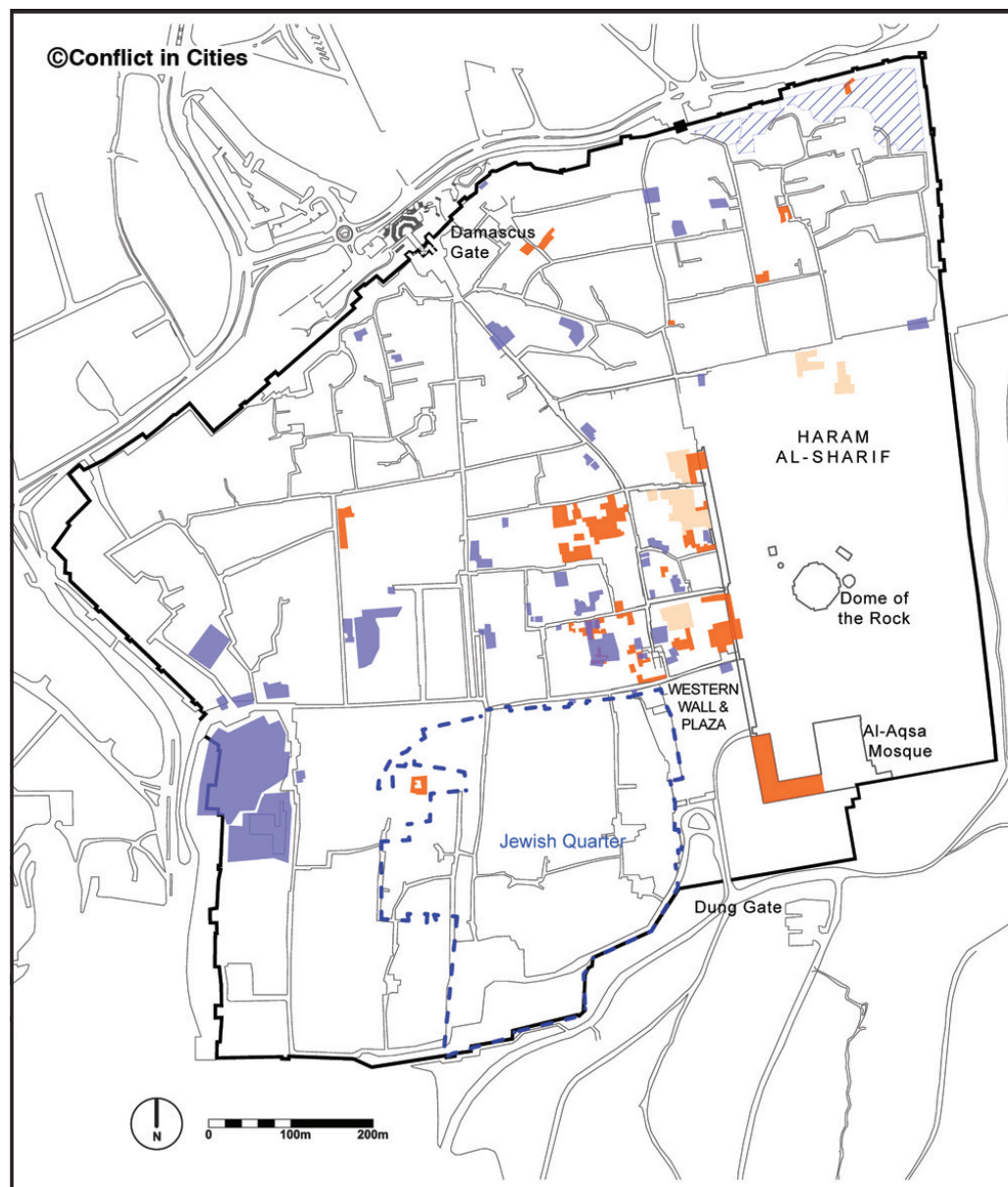


Figure 8

Welfare Association and Israeli Settlers in Jerusalem's Old City

KEY

- Israeli presence outside Jewish Quarter
[source ICAHD 2008]
- Area planned for development by Israeli settlers
[source ICAHD 2008]
- Regeneration by (Palestinian) Welfare Association
[source Welfare Association 2004]
- Buildings planned for regeneration by Welfare Association
[source Welfare Association 2004]

Module J2.2: The Islamic Movement

A paper by Dumper and Larkin analyses the growing involvement of the Islamic Movement of Israel in the city. It explores how the 'Al Aqsa' mosque has been employed, particularly by Sheikh Ra'ad Salah from the Northern Branch of the Islamic Movement as a symbol for political empowerment, a site for public contestation (Waqf Authority and IAA digs) and a focus for religious renewal, through tourism and activism. This paper questions whether the movement's presence should be perceived as a growing strategic threat, part of a larger 'Islamising' trend or rather a consequence and culmination of weak local leadership, political intransigence, the failure of secular authority and the unintended consequence of the separation wall and the non-recognition of the Hamas government.

Module J3.1: Urban Resistance

Within the wider historical and theoretical enquiry into the role of conflict in cities, Pullan has developed an interpretation of non-violent forms of urban resistance in Palestinian Jerusalem. The paper is structured as a threefold investigation of the Islamicisation and commercialisation of the Old City, the revival of family structures, as well as the use of heritage and conservation techniques to revive Palestinian traditions in Old City housing (Figure 5).

Methodology: The Role of Visual Research

A working paper to be developed into a journal article is looking at historic and contemporary representations of Jerusalem and in particular how this imagery is used in conjunction with ideas and policies for the planning and conservation of the Old City. The research focuses on the day-to-day movement across Damascus Gate between the 'Old' and 'New' city and how these connections affect and are affected by planning and conservation policy, as well as the city's divisions (Figures 9 & 10). The analysis is developed through the project's own maps and spatial drawings, in conjunction with research into the use of visual material by Israeli, Palestinian and international groups.



Figure 9
Commercial activity outside Damascus Gate,
Jerusalem's Old City

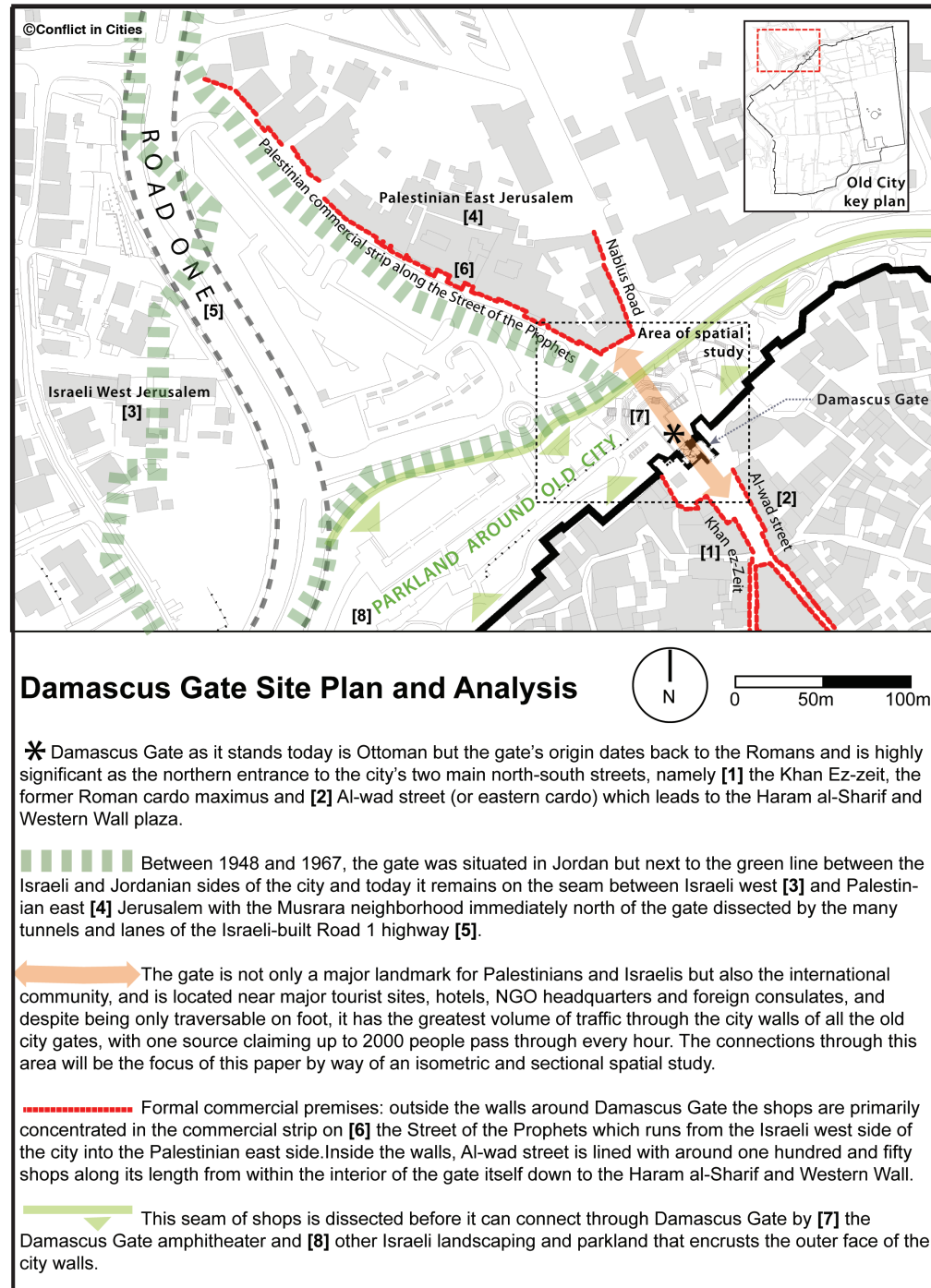


Figure 10

Graduate Programme

The Graduate programme officially started in October 2008, with seven PhD students beginning research on a diverse spectrum of contested cities. Working dissertation titles, research abstracts and short biographies of the graduate students are listed below.

Anita Bakshi (Cambridge)

The Role of Urban Memory in Divided Nicosia

Divided cities are places where divergent narratives about the past become embedded in place. The spaces of the city host a number of urban memories related to the conflict and spaces that are formed as a direct response to the imposed condition of partition of the city. What is the role of these spaces of memory in the city? Just as scholars have been testing the relationship between history and memory, proposing a more fluid relationship between the two, this research aims to propose a model for looking at sites of conflict that is patterned after these contemporary developments in historiography (*Figure 11*).

Biography

Anita got her BA degree in Architecture from the University of Illinois at Chicago, and a MA in Architecture from the University of California at Berkeley. Anita gained experience in professional practice in architectural firms in Chicago, Berkeley, and Istanbul – working primarily on residential, educational, and resort buildings. Anita has conducted research about architectural heritage in Berlin and in Cappadocia, Turkey working with a cultural heritage protection NGO in Istanbul.



Figure 11

Looking into the buffer zone that divides Nicosia with an unused UN observation point

Giulia Carabelli (Belfast)

“Re(ad)ressing Mostar” - Spatial and Social Implications of Post-war Intervention and Competition in Rebuilding Mostar

During the war, Mostar was transformed into the arena for an accurately planned destruction. This study sets out the question of how the subsequent process of reconstruction has been carried out focusing on modalities of spatial and power appropriations of the urban space. The method is to render the ways in which the new urban infrastructures assimilate and reveal the spatial divisions of the post-war reality. This enquiry aims to stress the growing importance of religion in shaping the new identities of the place by choosing the main actors among the multilayered religious communities and their national and trans-national networks.

Biography

Giulia Carabelli completed her BA and MA at the School of Oriental Languages and Cultures, Venice. She got an MA in Research Architecture at the Centre of Research Architecture at Goldsmiths College, London. Giulia started dealing with the city of Mostar in 2005 during her residence in the Bauhaus-Dessau Foundation as part of the UN-urbanism research foundation. The main focus of her research was the role of international religious networks in rebuilding the city after the war. In 2006, she collaborated with the Leipzig based artists Claudia Siegel and Jens Volz, publishing an art book, *Mostar Files*, which reflects on issues of mobility through different portraits of the city.

Monika Halkort (Belfast)

Anatomy of an Insurgent City

Conflict and violence are a constitutive part of urban reality in Tripoli, North Lebanon. Yet this ongoing state of war is neither sectarian nor ideological in nature, but rather reflects a collision of competing imaginations of nationhood and belonging inscribed into the very foundation of the state. It will be suggested that the forced creation of the Lebanese state by French Mandate Powers invested the country with fundamental contradictions between territorial and de-territorial conceptions of political community, sovereignty and power that continue to haunt the country and Tripoli's role and position in it up until today.

Biography

Monika obtained a BSc honours degree in Social and Cultural Studies at the Open University in 2005. She continued her studies towards a MA degree in Social Research at Goldsmiths University London, which she completed with distinction in 2007. Her MA dissertation focused on the social and political void surrounding Palestinian Refugee Camps in Lebanon.

Konstantin Kastrissianakis (Cambridge)*The Role of Public Space in Contested Beirut*

By analysing the role key public spaces play in Beirut since the war and particularly since the assassination of former prime minister Rafic Hariri, the Syrian military pull-out and the recent take-over of West Beirut by armed militias, this dissertation will examine the concept of public space and its relevance in a city and country governed by a number of disparate groups and a weak state. It will explore the possibilities for an architecture which recognises the urban processes and structure of conflict and which turns spaces of division into platforms of agonistic urbanism, into a ground where differences can be played out.

Biography

Following studies in social anthropology and economics at SOAS, London and political science at Sciences-Po, Paris, Konstantin worked for international organisations in Europe, the Middle-East and Africa. During an MA in Housing and Urbanism at the Architectural Association, London, for his thesis, he investigated spaces of urban division, comparing the urban structures and political experiences of Beirut, Berlin and Paris. Until the start of his PhD, he worked with KCAP Architects & Planners on a strategic planning project for the city of Perm in Russia.

Karl O'Connor (Exeter)*The Role of Bureaucracy in Conflict Management: Evidence from Brussels, Nicosia and Beirut*

The thesis examines the contribution of the bureaucracy to normalisation and stabilisation within contested urban environments. The first part considers political control of the bureaucracy within contested urban environments. It determines the influence of the political level on resource allocation. Where does political control occur and what affect does it have on the bureaucracy? The second part investigates how the bureaucracy acts where it has the capacity to do so. Do bureaucrats adhere to professional norms and values or do personal backgrounds determine a bureaucrat's actions?

Biography

Having completed his BA in Public Administration at the University of Limerick, Karl studied European Integration with Public Policy at Queen's University Belfast. He then worked as a research associate with Professor Claudio Radaelli at The Centre for Regulatory Governance at the University of Exeter and with the Department of Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (BERR) in London. The work was very policy oriented; examining how the decision-making structures of the civil service can be optimised. Karl has always had an interest in conflict resolution and both his BA and MA theses concentrated on the European Neighbourhood Policy in the Middle East.

Linda Rootamm (Belfast)

New Berlin, New People?: East Berliners' Perceptions of the 'Other' Through Everyday Spatial Practices

The research focus of the dissertation will be ethnographic in nature and looking at Berlin in the post-unification phase. It analyses continuity and change in the everyday spatial practices of East Berliners after the reunification, who at the time of the Wende were in their mid-20s. More specifically, the interest is in how their practices are influenced by their past biographical spatial experiences and controlled by the present power systems, public or private, that govern the development of the cityscape today. Finally, the study seeks to connect East Berliners' spatial experiences with their perceptions of the West Berliners and of themselves.

Biography

Linda Rootamm received her BA in Sociology from University of Tartu, Estonia, with a minor in cultural anthropology from Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz, Germany. This was followed by working as a research assistant at the Institute of Estonian Demography and receiving a MA in Social Anthropology from the University of Manchester. Before starting her PhD research at the Queen's University Belfast, Linda spent half a year in the Faroe Islands doing voluntary work in community building and empowerment.

Kelsey Shanks (Exeter)

Kirkuk's Ethnic Security Dilemma: The Amplification of Fear in a Divided City

This study aims to investigate the origins of insecurity within the ethnically divided demographic of Kirkuk and asks whether insecurity is a result of an elite-led ethnic security dilemma. It utilises the constructivist diagnosis of ethnic insecurity to suggest that the fear of what might come, amplified by the actions of political and sectarian elites, leads to building up of defences and thus human insecurity. The dissertation looks at the manipulation of the dilemma through political policy, propaganda, education and media sources and how this evokes fear in the everyday lives of Kirkuk's citizens.

Biography

Kelsey holds a BA in International Relations and Politics and a PGCE in Religious Education. She has taught at secondary school level for a number of years in the UK and abroad before coming to Exeter to pursue a PhD. Her interests lie in the politicisation of religion and ethnicity.

Belfast Workshop 08

The first of our five annual workshops was held on September 25th and 26th, 2008 at the School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work at Queen's University Belfast. The theme of the workshop was *The City and the Contested State*. The workshop had three main aims: (1) to introduce the project to our new PhD students, and for the first time to bring together the full 'Conflict in Cities' team from the three universities; (2) to include people from the wider research community, policy makers and community activists in Belfast, both as a way of introducing to them our research project and to obtain a feedback from them that would contribute to a more nuanced understanding of the city; (3) to bring into the project comparative material based on other divided cities and states.

Accordingly, the first day of the workshop was a round table for the 'Conflict in Cities' team. All project members presented their work on the project to date and their research plans for the current academic year. In addition, the ethical guidelines for the project were discussed. All papers presented have since been, or are in a process of being, turned into working papers for the project's electronic Working Paper Series. The second day was attended by over 50 guests and included papers on Belfast, Jerusalem, Kirkuk and Brussels.

Two tours of Belfast took place during the workshop. An open top bus tour (Wednesday, Sept. 24th) and an ex-paramilitary loyalist and republican tour (*Figures 12 & 13*, Thursday, Sept. 25th) showed contrasting approaches to the way Belfast's two faces (a glossy consumerist, cosmopolitan and politically non-controversial face, and the one of former 'no-go' areas, working-class and still overwhelmingly deprived and segregated along ethno-national lines) and the city's recent troubled history are 'packaged' and presented to tourists.

Belfast Users Group 08

The workshop ended with a round table discussion involving Belfast policy makers and community activists who focused on the experience of practitioners and user groups and discussed how different institutions and communities see their place within the changing nature of the city. Cross-cutting themes that emerged from the overview of all papers presented suggested the need to question more systematically key research concepts - 'everyday life', 'the state', 'civil society', 'public sphere', and 'public space' - in the context of the different cities studied in the project. The round table was chaired by Paul Sweeney (Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure, Northern Ireland Executive). The participants were Duncan Morrow (Community Relations Council), Hazel Francey, Manager, Good Relations Unit (Belfast City Council), Ken Sterrett, Environmental Planning, (Queen's University Belfast), Billy Hutchinson (Loyalist Community Activist) and Manus Maguire (Republican/Nationalist Community Activist).

Figure 12



Figure 13



Participants in the Conflict in Cities Belfast workshop visit Republican (Figure 12) and Loyalist (Figure 13) memorial gardens in 2008

Research Visits and Events

Dr Meir Margalit, May 2008

Project partner, Meir Margalit from the Israeli Committee Against Housing Demolitions, an NGO based in Jerusalem met with Wendy Pullan and the Cambridge team, in the Architecture Department in Cambridge on 5 May. Discussions focused on Margalit's research on the activities of far right settlers in the Old City and Historical Basin in Jerusalem. The underlying territorial strategies of ultra-nationalist groups in Jerusalem's inner city were addressed, particularly in relation to settlers' manipulation of tourist development in achieving hegemony over key parts of the city.

Karen Lee Bar Sinai, May 2008

Karen Lee Bar Sinai from SAYA Architecture & Consultancy, a practice based in Jerusalem met with Wendy Pullan and the Cambridge team in the Architecture Department in Cambridge on 30 May. The discussion centred on Karen Lee's urban design proposals for various scenarios for Jerusalem as a shared capital in a projected two-state solution, including security arrangements for a special regime around the Old City, as well as various forms of shared and divided public space in potential border zones of Jerusalem.

Professor Salim Tamari, October-November 2008

'Conflict in Cities', in conjunction with Clare College, Cambridge, hosted project partner Salim Tamari at the University of Cambridge for the Michaelmas term 2008. Tamari is Director of the Institute of Jerusalem Studies, Professor of Sociology at Birzeit University, Ramallah, and editor of the Jerusalem Quarterly. As Eric Lane Visiting Fellow at Clare College, he delivered four lectures and seminars in Cambridge. Tamari also visited Exeter University and participated in a lecture and discussion entitled 'The Collapse of the Two State Solution: What are the Alternatives?' (co-hosted by the Politics Department and the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies and Exeter Centre for Ethno-Political Studies; Mick Dumper acted as a respondent). Tamari participated in several research discussions with the 'Conflict in Cities' teams in Cambridge and Exeter. He also gave lectures at SOAS and the University of Kent.

Alessandro Petti, January 2009

Alessandro Petti of Goldsmiths, University of London was invited to give a lecture entitled, 'Archipelagos and Enclaves in Palestine, Dubai and Beyond Installation "Decolonising Architecture" on 26 January, organised jointly by 'Conflict in Cities', the Exeter Politics Department and the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies; Mick Dumper chaired and Max Gwiazda acted as a discussant.

Professor Theodor Hanf, February 2009

Theodor Hanf from American University Beirut and Freiburg University was invited to give a lecture entitled, 'Model Hong Kong Vs Model Hanoi. Is the Lebanese Political System Changing?' on 4 February, organised by 'Conflict in Cities', Exeter Politics Department and the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies.

Professor Oren Yiftachel and Belfast Project Workshop, February/March 2009

'Conflict in Cities' along with the School of Geography in Queen's University Belfast hosted a visit by project partner Oren Yiftachel of Ben Gurion University, Beer Sheva, under the School's Visiting Professorship scheme. Yiftachel is a leading Israeli political and urban geographer who is also developing his own 'divided cities' project 'Comparing Ethnocratic Cities'. His lecture and seminar presentations on the current situation in Israel-Palestine and on his wider comparative project were attended by the members of the project team based in Belfast, and he conducted individual tutorials with the three Belfast-based PhD students. Wendy Pullan came over to join in the discussions with Yiftachel, and a half-day workshop involving the Belfast team discussed both projects and their common themes, and on-going empirical work on the use of public space by mothers with young children in selected areas of Belfast.

Dr Stef Jansen, March 2009

Stef Jansen gave a lecture entitled 'Grid desire: war and statecraft in a Sarajevo suburb' at the Queen's University School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work seminar series on 11 March 2009.

Project Investigators' Meetings

There have been five Project Investigators' Meetings since 1 May 2008. The four investigators attended one-day meetings on 3 May 2008 (following the Advisory Council meeting in Cambridge) and 24 September 2008 (following the Project Workshop in Belfast). The investigators held Skype conference calls on 4 July 2008, 8 December 2008 and 27 January 2009. Topics under discussion included research modules; workshops/conferences; working papers/publications; linked cities; and the graduate programme. A full two-day Project Investigators' Meeting concentrating on research issues is scheduled for May 2009 in Belfast.

Website

As well as containing information about the ongoing project research, activities and events, there is a section that forms an electronic journal that solicits and peer reviews working papers from other researchers working in the field. This is intended to be a multi-disciplinary forum for work in progress. The website address is: www.conflictincities.org.

Newsletter

An electronic newsletter was posted to all project members, advisory committee members, user groups and other interested parties in June 2008, as well as January 2009 and will continue twice a year. The newsletter is a brief update on project news and events in the previous six months and refers readers to the main project website for further information.

Linked Cities

As well as research on Belfast and Jerusalem, seven other 'Linked Cities' will be examined in order to develop a more extensive and varied contextual backdrop. Each of these cities – Berlin, Brussels, Mostar, Nicosia, Tripoli (Lebanon), Beirut and Kirkuk – will be studied by one of the PhD students, and their dissertations will constitute Conflict in Cities' major investigations in these places.

In addition to the PhD research, the investigators will visit some of the cities in order to exchange ideas and insights with project partners and other specialists, and to be able to study the urban topographies in situ. Liam O'Dowd and James Anderson were able to combine a conference in Berlin with making initial contacts with people involved in the reunification of the city. The investigators, along with researcher Lefkos Kyriacou and Belfast research partner Madeleine Leonard, will be spending six days in Nicosia in March 2009 to meet with academics, planners and members of NGOs and other organisations.

Fieldwork in the Linked Cities is a major part of the postgraduates' research programme. Monika Halkort spent three weeks in Tripoli prior to starting at Queen's in September. Anita Bakshi had six weeks in Nicosia (*Figure 14*) which included presenting a paper at a conference on 'One Island Many Histories: Rethinking the Politics of the Past in Cyprus' in November 08. Linda Rootamm spent two weeks in Berlin in January 2009. During the same month, Konstantin Kastrissianakis visited Beirut (*Figure 15*), renewing his connections with the city where he lived in 2004.

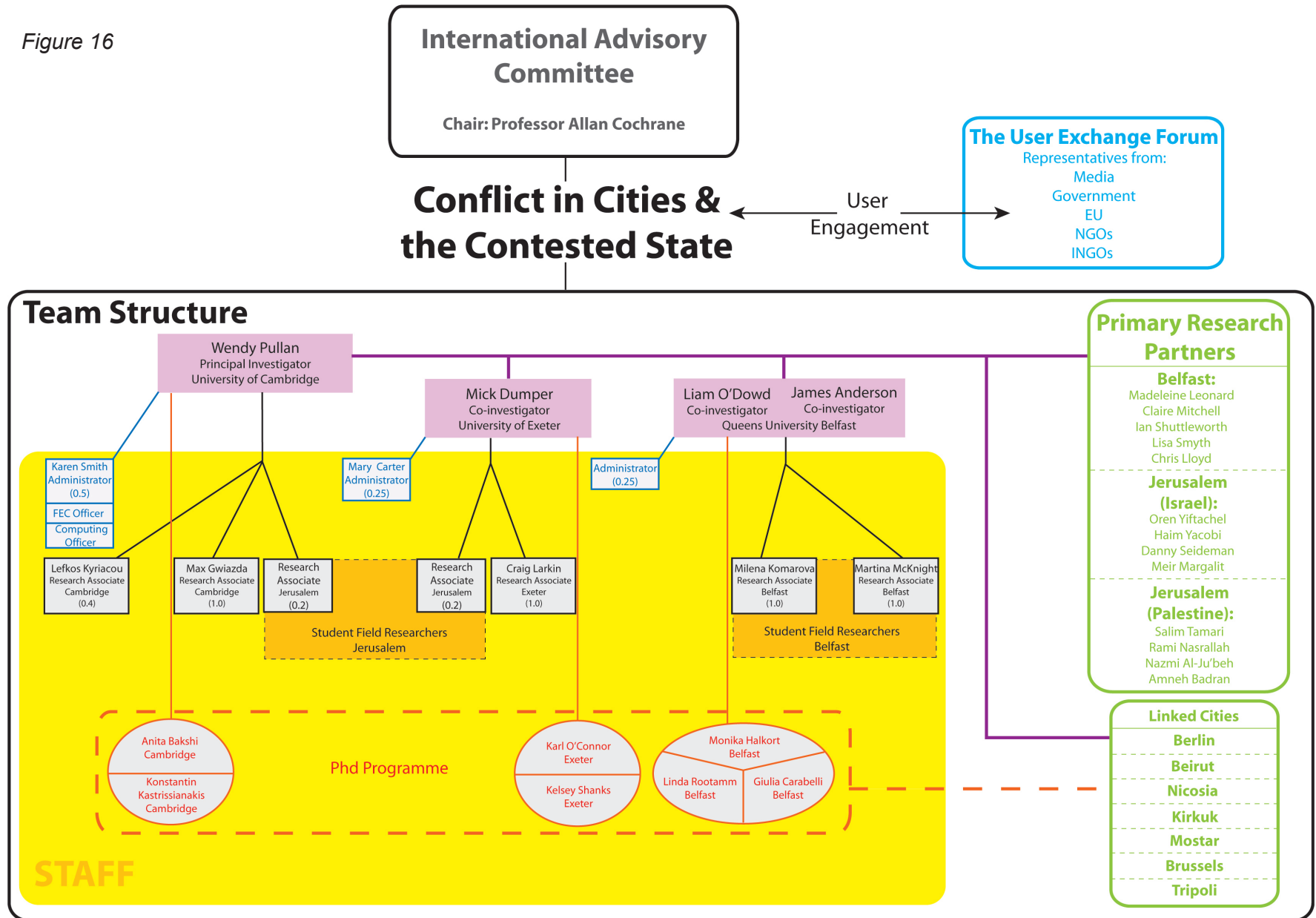


Figure 14
A Nicosia residential neighborhood in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus at a security gate to a military area



Figure 15
The Mohammad Al-Amin Mosque establishing a new scale in Beirut's city centre and on the edge of the still unbuilt Martyrs' Square

Figure 16



Principal Investigator:

Dr Wendy Pullan

Architecture, University of Cambridge (Jerusalem)

Co-Investigators:

Prof James Anderson

Geography, Queen's University Belfast (Belfast)

Prof Mick Dumper

Politics, University of Exeter (Jerusalem)

Prof Liam O'Dowd

Sociology, Queen's University Belfast (Belfast)

Research Associates:

Dr Maximilian Gwiazda

Architecture, University of Cambridge (Jerusalem)

Lefkos Kyriacou

Architecture, University of Cambridge (Jerusalem)

Dr Craig Larkin

Politics, University of Exeter (Jerusalem)

Dr Milena Komarova

Sociology, Queen's University Belfast (Belfast)

Dr Martina McKnight

Sociology, Queen's University Belfast (Belfast)

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Prof Allan Cochrane, Chair

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Dr. Rosemary Hollis

Olive Tree Programme, City University, London

Dr Duncan Morrow

Northern Ireland Community Relations Council, Belfast

Mr Nigel Roberts

World Bank, Country Director of Timor-Leste, Papua New Guinea & the Pacific Islands

Prof Kevin Robins

Department of Sociology, City University, London

Prof Leslie Sklair

Cities Programme, London School of Economics

Primary Research Partners

Belfast:

Prof Madeleine Leonard

Sociology, Queen's University Belfast

Dr Chris Lloyd

Geography, Queen's University Belfast

Dr Claire Mitchell

Sociology, Queen's University Belfast

Dr Ian Shuttleworth

Human Geography, Queen's University Belfast

Dr Lisa Smyth

Sociology, Queen's University Belfast

Jerusalem (Palestine):

Dr Nazmi Al-Ju'beh

Director, Riwaq: Centre for Architectural Conservation

Dr Amneh Badran

Head of Department, Politics, Al-Quds University

Rami Nasrallah

Director General, International Peace and Cooperation Centre in Jerusalem

Prof Salim Tamari

Sociology, Bir Zeit University, Ramallah; Director, Institute of Jerusalem Studies

Jerusalem (Israel):

Dr Meir Margalit

Co-ordinator, The Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions

Danny Seideman

Human Rights Lawyer, Ir-Amim, Jerusalem

Dr Haim Yacobi

Politics, Ben Gurion University, Beer Sheva; Director, Bimkom

Prof Oren Yiftachel

Geography, Ben Gurion University, Beer Sheva

Wendy Pullan *Principal Investigator, University of Cambridge*

Dr Wendy Pullan is Senior Lecturer in the History and Philosophy of Architecture at the University of Cambridge. She is Principal Investigator for 'Conflict in Cities and the Contested State', and from 2003 to 2007, directed the ESRC funded 'Conflict in Cities: Architecture and Urban Order in Divided Jerusalem', upon which the present project is built. In 2006, Dr Pullan received the Royal Institute of British Architects inaugural President's Award for University Led Research for work on Conflict in Cities. She has received research grants from the British Academy and AHRC. Dr Pullan's research focuses on meaning and change within urban conditions, both historical and contemporary. Her work is informed by the underlying relationships of urban praxis to planning, policy and theory, and she has studied various multidisciplinary situations that reflect the city. She has published widely on Mediterranean and Middle Eastern architecture and cities, especially Jerusalem. With Political Scientist Mick Dumper, she is now completing 'Politics and Urban Order in Divided Jerusalem'. Dr Pullan holds a PhD from Cambridge. She lived in Jerusalem for thirteen years where she taught architecture at the Bezalel Academy of Art and Design. Dr Pullan is a Fellow of Clare College, Cambridge.

James Anderson *Co-Investigator, Queen's University Belfast*

Professor James Anderson joined the School of Geography, Queen's University Belfast in October 1999. Educated at Magee and Queen's, the University of Alberta and the London School of Economics, he headed the post-graduate Department of Urban and Regional Development Planning at the Architectural Association School in London, and then worked at The Open University where he chaired the Social Science Foundation Course. Appointed to the Chair of International Development in the University of Newcastle upon Tyne Geography Department in 1996, he was Associate Director of the Centre for Transnational Studies, which he set up jointly with the Department of Politics. In 2003 and 2005 he received two ESRC awards for the 'Conflict in Cities' projects along with Drs Pullan and Dumper; since the 1990s he has collaborated on various projects with Professor O'Dowd. Professor Anderson's main research and teaching interests are in geopolitics and political geography: state and local territorialities; nationalism and national conflicts; state borders and cross-border processes, particularly with reference to Ireland and the European Union. His more recent interest in conflict in cities in contested states is a direct extension of these interests.

Mick Dumper *Co-Investigator, University of Exeter*

Professor Mick Dumper, formerly Middle East coordinator for Quaker Peace and Service, consultant to the Welfare Association (Geneva), and Senior Researcher with the Institute for Palestine Studies (Washington, DC) is a relative late-comer to academia. Since completing his PhD in 1993, under Nazih Ayubi, Professor Dumper has taught in the Politics Department at Exeter University. As well as his academic research, he has participated in a number of academic and policy study groups involving Palestinian and Israeli academics and officials, ranging in subjects from Permanent Status Issues in the Middle East Peace Process, to planning issues for Jerusalem and to the future of Islamic waqfs in Palestine. These were funded, amongst others, by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (USA), International Development Research Centre (Canada), Olaf Palme International Centre (Sweden) and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (UK). He has also conducted consultancies with the European Commission, International Development and Research Centre (Canada) and the Adam Smith Institute International Division on aspects of the Arab-Israeli conflict. In 2002, Professor Dumper was awarded a British Academy/Leverhulme Trust Senior Research Fellowship to work on issues concerning the future of Palestinian refugees. In 2003 and 2005, he received two awards in conjunction with Wendy Pullan, from the ESRC, to work on 'Conflict in Cities: Architecture and the Urban Order in Divided Jerusalem'. In 2007 he was asked to contribute to a project with the University of Windsor, Ontario, entitled the Jerusalem Old City Initiative.

Liam O'Dowd *Co-Investigator, Queen's University Belfast*

Professor Liam O'Dowd's interest in cities, ethno-national conflict and contested states began with his PhD dissertation, entitled, 'The Intellectual Image of the City in Irish Social Commentary and Urban Planning'. On moving to Northern Ireland his research began to focus on the contested (British) state in Northern Ireland. His work in the 1980s, involved studying urban politics in Belfast, in particular how housing development, road building and 'enterprise zone' policy intersected with the ethno-national conflict on the ground. His research between 1988-1991, funded by the ESRC, focused on local responses to economic change in two smaller urban centres in Northern Ireland, Newry and Craigavon. Throughout the 1990s, Professor O'Dowd linked his interest in Northern Ireland to wider issues of colonialism and nationalism (British and Irish). Current research, in collaboration with James Anderson, further develops these interests by re-examining the historical intersection of imperialism, nationalism and ethno-national conflict. From the early 1990s onwards, Professor O'Dowd's interest in the contested state became more focused on the issue of borders. Between 1991 and 1994, he directed an ESRC funded project entitled Negotiating the British/Irish Border: Cross-Border Co-operation on the European Periphery. Since 2000, he has worked closely with James Anderson in the Centre for International Borders Research (CIBR) at Queen's which he directs. Since 2000, Professor O'Dowd has been involved in a series of funded research projects on cross-border co-operation in Ireland and the role of grassroots voluntary and community organisations in the Northern Ireland peace process.

Maximilian Gwiazda *Research Associate, University of Cambridge*

Maximilian Gwiazda completed his PhD in the History and Philosophy of Architecture at Cambridge in 2007 and is an academic associate of Pembroke College. His current research relates to the interplay of heritage stewardship, nationalism and urban design in the politics of planning in Jerusalem with a particular focus on far right settler groups.

Milena Komarova *Research Associate, Queen's University Belfast*

Milena Komarova completed her PhD research on discourses on peace-building in Northern Ireland at the School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work, Queen's University (2007) where she is currently based. Current research interests include civil society and ethno-national conflict in Northern Ireland, public sphere and collective identities, as well as discourse analysis.

Lefkos Kyriacou *Research Associate, University of Cambridge*

Lefkos Kyriacou is a practicing architect at Cottrell and Vermeulen Architecture in London. His primary role involves the project's visual research. He is currently looking at the methodology of using drawings for studying divided cities and is also researching connections between urban planning and conservation with historic and contemporary representations of Jerusalem.

Craig Larkin *Research Associate, University of Exeter*

Craig Larkin completed his PhD in Middle East Studies at the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, Exeter University in February 2009. His thesis title was 'Memory and Conflict: Remembering and Forgetting the Past in Lebanon'. He is an associate research fellow at Exeter Politics department and an academic associate of Exeter Centre for Ethno-Political Studies. His current research relates to Beirut's contested centre, and the politicisation of heritage and influence of Islamic groups within Jerusalem's old city.

Martina McKnight *Research Associate, Queen's University Belfast*

Martina McKnight completed her PhD research on gender relations and identities in academia in Northern Ireland at Queen's University Belfast in 2007. Her research interests include feminist theory and methodology, gender and work, identity, choice and reflexivity in late modernity and equality and social inclusion.

PhD Students

Anita Bakshi, *University of Cambridge*

Giulia Carabelli, *Queen's University Belfast*

Monica Halkort, *Queen's University Belfast*

Konstantin Kastrissianakis, *University of Cambridge*

Karl O'Connor, *University of Exeter*

Linda Rootamm, *Queen's University Belfast*

Kelsey Shanks, *University of Exeter*

Management, Budget, Ethics and Related Issues

Since the last Advisory Council meeting in May 2008, the major contracts have been finalised, including the collaboration agreements between the Universities of Cambridge and Exeter and Queen's University Belfast. Seven postgraduate students have enrolled in Conflict in Cities with funding for three from the ESRC; two other studentships are provided by Queen's, one by Exeter and one by Clare College, Cambridge.

Approval by the Ethics Review Committee of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at Cambridge University has been forthcoming for the project's research procedures; the Cambridge green light has been accepted by the ESRC. The project has also been approved by the Ethics Committee of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at Exeter University. The 'Ethics Framework' has been finalised Mick Dumper and Craig Larkin and distributed to all members of the project including: Investigators, Researchers, Students, and Research Partners. All members of the project have indicated in writing that they will abide by the Framework. The Belfast Workshop in September 2008 provided a good opportunity to make a presentation of the major ethical issues to the members of the Project.

In the past year a cycle of regular connections with the ESRC has been established. An End of Year report was submitted in late March 2008, and a Forward Plan for the next twelve months and a five year Communications Plan (to be revised regularly) have been written. In ESRC terminology, a 'Troika' was formed for the Project. Members are Wendy Pullan as PI, Chris Wyatt as the Project's ESRC Case Officer, and Professor Colin McInnes (Department of Politics at Aberystwyth) as the ESRC's Board Liaison Member. Meetings of the Troika are held twice a year. Dr Pullan also attends the ESRC's Directors' meetings twice a year in order to participate in ESRC policy and planning.

One of the topics discussed at the November 08 Troika meeting was the present international economic crisis. Because Conflict in Cities relies on regular overseas travel to Jerusalem and other destinations, and a series of workshops are planned in Jerusalem for January 2010, the declining value of Sterling could be problematic. The policy of the ESRC is not to provide extra funds for such situations and at present we are advised to continue our programme as planned in the hope that the economic situation will right itself over the length of the Project. As much as we hope this will be the case, we are looking for ways to reduce our international expenditures.

Publications

Dumper, M. (2009) 'Introduction' & 'Israel Settlement in the Old City of Jerusalem', in M. Dumper (ed.), *The Arab Israeli-Conflict*. 4 vols., London: Routledge.

Dumper, M. (2009) 'Jerusalem', in C. A. Rubenberg (ed.), *Encyclopaedia of the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict*. Boulder, Colorado: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Dumper, M., (2009) 'Christianity, Jerusalem and Zionist Exclusivity: The St John's Hospice Incident Reconsidered', in L. Jayyusi (ed.), *Jerusalem*. London: I.B. Tauris (forthcoming).

L'Estrange, S. and O'Dowd, L. (2008) 'Structures and Narratives of Border Change: Perspectives from North America, Europe and the Middle East', *Journal of Borderland Studies* 26 (1) pp.1-12.

O'Dowd, L. and McCall, C. (2008) 'Escaping the Cage of Ethno-National Conflict in Northern Ireland: The Importance of Transnational Networks', *Ethnopolitics* 7 (1), pp.81-100.

O'Dowd, L. (2009) 'Debating the Agreement: Beyond a Communalist Dynamic', in R. Taylor (ed) *Consociational Theory: McGarry and O'Leary and the Northern Ireland Conflict*, London: Routledge, pp. 295-308 (forthcoming).

Pullan, W. & M. Gwiazda (2009) 'Designing the Biblical Present in Jerusalem's "City of David"', in A. Webber, U. Staiger & H. Steiner (eds.) *Memory Culture and the Contemporary City: Building Sites*. London: Palgrave Macmillan (forthcoming).

Working Papers

Anderson, J. (2008) "From Empires to Ethno-National Conflicts: A framework for studying 'Divided Cities' in 'Contested States'". Working Paper 1. www.conflictincities.org/workingpapers.html

Dumper, M. and Larkin, M. (2008), 'The Politics of Heritage and the Limitations of International Agency in Divided Cities: The role of UNESCO in Jerusalem's Old City'. Working Paper 2. www.conflictincities.org/workingpapers.html

Komarova, M. (2008), 'Shared Space in Belfast and the Limits of A Shared Future' Working Paper 3. www.conflictincities.org/workingpapers.html

Dumper, M. (2008), 'The Multiple Borders of Jerusalem: Policy Implications for the Future of the City'. Working Paper 4. www.conflictincities.org/workingpapers.html

Murtagh, B. (2008), 'New Spaces and Old in 'Post-Conflict' Belfast'. Working Paper 5. www.conflictincities.org/workingpapers.html

Pullan, W. & Gwiazda M. (2008), "Jerusalem's 'City of David': The Politicisation of Urban Heritage". Working Paper 6. www.conflictincities.org/workingpapers.html

Invited lectures and conference papers

O'Dowd, L. (2008), 'Belfast Beyond the Troubles: The Future of Ethno-National Division in the Consumerist City'. School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work Seminar Series, 7 May.

O'Dowd, L. (2008), 'Belfast in Transition: from 'City of the Troubles' to 'Post-Conflict Consumerist City'. Sociological Association of Ireland Conference, Galway. 10 May.

Komarova, M. (2008), 'Living separately or Living Apart. Shared Space in Belfast and the Limits of A Shared Future'. Sociological Association of Ireland Conference, Galway. 10 May.

Leonard, M. (2008), 'A Little Bit of History and a Lot of Opinion: Biased Authenticity in Belfast and Nicosia'. Sociological Association of Ireland Conference, Galway. 10 May.

Pullan, W. (2008), 'Images and artefacts of boundedness and mobility in contested Jerusalem', Art, Visual Culture and the Israeli Occupation Conference, Manchester Metropolitan University. 10 May.

Pullan, W. (2008), 'Frontier Urbanism in Contested Jerusalem', Martin Centre Lectures, Department of Architecture, University of Cambridge. 14 May.

Leonard, M. (2008), 'Touring Disputed Places. The Role of Tourism'. Workshop, 'Cyprus and Divided Societies', Queen's University Belfast. 21 May.

Pullan, W. (2008), 'Urban encounters and their Legacy in the Development of Jerusalem's New City'. Interdisciplinary approaches to Palestine Conference, Centre for Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, University of Cambridge. 24 May.

Gwiazda, M. (2008), 'Digging up Neo-biblical narratives: Archaeology and the Proliferation of Settler Spaces in Jerusalem's Old City'. Joint 'Conflict in Cities' session at the 'The Culture of Reconstruction: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Aftermath of Crisis', CRASSH, University of Cambridge. 26-27 June.

Komarova, M. (2008), 'Shared Space in "Post-conflict" Belfast and the Limits of a "Shared Future"'. Joint 'Conflict in Cities' session at the 'The Culture of Reconstruction: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Aftermath of Crisis', CRASSH, University of Cambridge. 26-27 June.

Larkin, C. (2008), 'Reconstructing and Deconstructing Beirut: Space, Memory and Lebanese Youth'. Joint 'Conflict in Cities' session at the 'The Culture of Reconstruction: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Aftermath of Crisis', CRASSH, University of Cambridge. 26-27 June.

Pullan, W. (2008), 'Colonial Urbanism: Forging National Identities in the Building of Jerusalem's New City', Conflict in Cities workshop, Belfast. 25-26 September.

Pullan, W. (2008), 'Can Resistance Play a Positive Urban Role? The Situation in Jerusalem/al-Quds'. Cities: Understanding Social-cultural Transformations conference, Aga Khan and Bilgi Universities, Istanbul. 15-16 October.

Tamari, S. (2008), 'WWI and the Remaking of Arab-Turkish Identity'. Centre for Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, University of Cambridge. 27 October.

Pullan, W. and Gwiazda, M. (2008), '"Contained Conflict": Rethinking Terror and Territory in Jerusalem'. Round table discussion at the Post-Conflict, Post-Crisis Group, CRASSH, University of Cambridge. 4 November.

Gwiazda, M. (2008), 'The Politicisation of Urban Heritage Designs in Jerusalem's "City of David" Archaeological Park'. Heritage Research Group Seminars, Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge. 6 November.

Tamari, S. (2008), '(Un)sacred Geography: Jerusalem as an Unholy City', CRASSH, University of Cambridge. 13 November.

Tamari, S. (2008), Joint lecture and discussion, Exeter Politics Department, Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies and Exeter Centre for Ethno-Political Studies (EXCEPS). 'The Collapse of the Two State Solution: What are the Alternatives?'. Discussants Ilan Pappé and Mick Dumper. 10 November.

Tamari, S. (2008), 'Diaries as a source of studying Urban History', Seminar, Clare College, University of Cambridge. 14 November.

Pullan, W. (2008), 'Resistance as an Urban Phenomenon in Palestinian Jerusalem'. Cities and Fragile States Seminar, London School of Economics. 26 November.

Bakshi, A. (2008), 'Divided Memory and Architecture in Nicosia' at the Peace and Research Institute of Oslo Conference – 'One Island Many Histories: Rethinking the Politics of the Past in Cyprus', Nicosia. 28-29 November.

Pullan, W. (2008), 'Can Resistance Play a Positive Urban Role?'. Symposium on 'Planning East Jerusalem' sponsored by Bimkom – Planners for Planning Rights, Jerusalem. 18 December.

Kyriacou, L. (2009), 'On mapping methodologies in urban research'. Architectural Association, School of Architecture, London. 27 January.

Larkin, C. (2009), 'The politics of heritage and the limitations of international agency in divided cities: the role of UNESCO in Jerusalem's Old City'. Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge. 12 February.

Dumper M and C. Larkin (2009), 'Conflict in Cities project overview & Islamic actors their increasing role in Jerusalem's Old City', Seminar and roundtable, Exeter Centre for Ethno-Political Studies (EXCEPS). 12 March.

Advisory Work and User Groups

'Old City Initiative', University of Windsor

Mick Dumper continues to be involved in the 'Jerusalem Old City Initiative' (<http://web2.uwindsor.ca/wsgcms/Projects/JerusalemInitiative/indexTpl.php>), which is looking at the possibility of third party intervention in the future administration of the Old City of Jerusalem. The Initiative involves discussions with Israeli and Palestinian advisors to the peace process.

'Future Cities Initiative', Royal Institute of Architects

Wendy Pullan was invited by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) to present on Conflict and Cities project in relation to security challenges facing cities in the UK at the Conflict and Architecture Advisory Meeting, RIBA, Portland Place London. 8 July. This advisory role continues through the project's participation in the 'Future Cities Initiatives'. Max Gwiazda gave a paper entitled 'Security challenges in London and Jerusalem' at a RIBA group working on security and conflict, Department of Architecture, Oxford Brookes University on 13 November.

Contested Cities Round Table Discussion, Queen's University Belfast

Members of the Belfast project team were invited to take part in a series of round table discussions entitled 'Contested Cities' that took place between February and August, 2008 at Queen's. The seminars were organised by the School of Environmental Planning, Queen's University and brought together academics, researchers, policy-makers and practitioners from Belfast. Some of the themes discussed were: the meaning of 'shared' and 'contested' space in Belfast and the need for conceptual clarity on these notions; and the role of the planning system in developing shared space in Belfast. On 9 April Liam O'Dowd gave a talk presenting the 'Conflict in Cities' Project to the seminar.

EU 'Open City Initiative'

Liam O'Dowd represents Queen's University Belfast on the Belfast Steering Group of the EU 'Open Cities' initiative. This is an EU funded initiative led by Belfast City Council and incorporating ten other European Cities (including, Sofia, Bilbao, Poznan, Madrid, Dublin, Dusseldorf). The aim of the project is to maximise the economic benefits of cultural diversity within cities by enhancing inter-urban connectivity in the EU.