

The Urban Wisdom Of Jane Jacobs Faw2 Indd

Ideas that Matter Jane Jacobs: The Last Interview Vital Little Plans The Urban Wisdom of Jane Jacobs Eyes on the Street Dark Age Ahead What We See Jane Jacobs is still here Becoming Jane Jacobs The Death and Life of Great American Cities Essays on Jane Jacobs An Analysis of Jane Jacobs's The Death and Life of Great American Cities Reconsidering Jane Jacobs Contemporary Perspectives on Jane Jacobs Genius of Common Sense Jane Jacobs The Economy of Cities Exploring the Thought of Jane Jacobs Who the Hell Is Jane Jacobs? The Routledge Guidebook to Jane Jacobs' the Death and Life of Great American Cities Max Allen Jane Jacobs Jane Jacobs Jane Jacobs Robert Kanigel Jane Jacobs Stephen A. Goldsmith Roberto Rocco Peter L. Laurence Jane Jacobs Jesper Meijling Martin Fuller Max Page Dirk Schubert Glenna Lang Alice Sparberg Alexiou Jane Jacobs Richard Keeley Deborah Talbot Peter Laurence

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jane jacobs is the kind of writer who produces in her readers such changed ways of looking at the world that she becomes an oracle or final authority the new york sun hailed by the new york times book review as perhaps the single most influential work in the history of town planning jane jacobs s the death and life of great american cities was instantly recognized as a masterpiece upon its publication in 1961 in the decades that followed jacobs remained a brilliant and revered commentator on architecture urban life and economics until her death in 2006 these interviews capture jacobs at her very best

and are an essential reminder of why jacobs was and remains unrivaled in her analyses and her ability to cut through cant and received wisdom

from the internationally renowned author of the modern classic *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* no one did more to change how we look at cities than jane jacobs the visionary urbanist and economic thinker whose 1961 book *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* started a global conversation that remains profoundly relevant more than half a century later *Vital Little Plans* is an essential companion to *Death and Life* and jacobs other books on urbanism economics politics and ethics it offers readers a unique survey of her entire career in 40 short pieces that have never been collected in a single volume from charming and incisive urban vignettes from the 1930s to the raw materials of her two unfinished books of the 2000s together with introductions and annotations by editors samuel zipp and nathan storing readers will find classics here including jacobs breakout article *Downtown Is for People* as well as lesser known gems like her speech at the inaugural earth day and a host of other rare or previously unavailable essays articles speeches interviews and lectures some pieces shed light on the development of her most famous insights while others explore topics rarely dissected in her major works from globalization to feminism to universal health care this book published in jacobs s centenary year enables contemporary readers whether well versed in her ideas or new to her writing to finally appreciate the full scope of her remarkable voice and vision at a time when urban life is booming and people all over the world are moving to cities the words of jane jacobs have never been more significant *Vital Little Plans* weaves a lifetime of ideas from the most prominent urbanist of the twentieth century into a book that is indispensable to life in the twenty first

here for the first time is a thoroughly interdisciplinary and international examination of jane jacobs s legacy divided into four parts i jacobs urban philosopher ii jacobs urban economist ii jacobs urban sociologist and iv jacobs urban designer the book evaluates the impact of jacobs s writings and activism on the city the professions dedicated to city building and more generally on human thought together the editors and contributors highlight the notion that jacobs s influence goes beyond planning to philosophy economics sociology and design they set out to answer such questions as what explains jacobs s lasting appeal and is it justified where was she right and where was she wrong what were the most important themes she addressed and although jacobs was best known for her work on cities is it correct to say that she was a much broader thinker a philosopher and that the key to her lasting legacy is precisely her exceptional breadth of

thought

the first major biography of the irrepressible woman who changed the way we view and live in cities and whose influence can still be felt in any discussion of urban planning to this day eyes on the street is a revelation of the phenomenal woman who raised three children wrote seven groundbreaking books saved neighborhoods stopped expressways was arrested twice and engaged at home and on the streets in thousands of debates all of which she won here is the child who challenged her third grade teacher the high school poet the journalist who honed her writing skills at iron age architectural forum fortune and other outlets while amassing the knowledge she would draw upon to write her most famous book the death and life of great american cities here too is the activist who helped lead an ultimately successful protest against robert moses s proposed expressway through her beloved greenwich village and who in order to keep her sons out of the vietnam war moved to canada where she became as well known and admired as she was in the united states

in this indispensable book urban visionary jane jacobs argues that as agrarianism gives way to a technology based future we re at risk of cultural collapse jacobs renowned author of the death and life of great american cities and the economy of cities pinpoints five pillars of our culture that are in serious decay community and family higher education the effective practice of science taxation and government and the self regulation of the learned professions the corrosion of these pillars jacobs argues is linked to societal ills such as environmental crisis racism and the growing gulf between rich and poor but this is a hopeful book as well as a warning drawing on a vast frame of reference from fifteenth century chinese shipbuilding to ireland s cultural rebirth jacobs suggests how the cycles of decay can be arrested and our way of life renewed invigorating and accessible dark age ahead is not only the crowning achievement of jane jacobs career but one of the most important works of our time

a timely revisitation of renowned urbanist activist jane jacobs lifework what we see invites thirty pundits and practitioners across fields to refresh jacobs economic social and urban planning theories for the present day combining personal and professional observations with meditations on jacobs insights essayists bring their diverse experience to bear to sketch the blueprints for the living city the book models itself after jacobs collaborative approach to city and community building asking community members and niche specialists to share their knowledge with a broader community to work together

toward a common goal of building the 21st century city the resulting collection of original essays expounds and expands jacobs ideas on the qualities of a vibrant robust urban area it offers the generalist the activist and the urban planner practical examples of the benefits of planning that encourages community participation pedestrianism diversity environmental responsibility and self sufficiency bob sirman director of the canada council for the arts describes how built form should be an embodiment of a community narrative daniel kemmis former mayor of missoula shares an imagined dialog with jacobs discussing the delicate interconnection between cities and their surrounding rural areas and roberta brandes gratz urban critic author and former head of public policy of the new york state preservation league asserts the importance of architectural preservation to environmentally sound urban planning practices what we see asks us all to join the conversation about next steps for shaping socially just environmentally friendly and economically prosperous urban communities

on the occasion of jane jacobs 100 anniversary the chair of spatial planning and strategy of the delft university of technology together with the otb research institute for the built environment and the rotterdam erasmus university college organised a two day conference on jane jacob s legacy at tu delft on 24 25 may 2016 this event was complemented one year later by a jane jacobs year closing event we wished to celebrate the life and accomplishments of one of the most important urban thinkers of our time someone who has influenced generations of designers and planners and others concerned with the built environment the great jane jacobs this volume contains a number of papers presented at the celebratory conference held at tu delft in may 2016 with six tracks coordinated by guest scholars track 1 jane jacobs ethics and the just city track 2 jane jacobs and street spaces streets as public places track 3 jane jacobs and the dynamics of neighbourhoods track 4 jane jacobs and the reshaping old urban fabrics in chinese cities track 5 jane jacobs and organised complexity track 6 jane jacobs and safety in public space

jane jacobs is universally recognized as one of the key figures in american urbanism the author of the death and life of great american cities she uncovered the complex and intertwined physical and social fabric of the city and excoriated the urban renewal policies of the 1950s as the legend goes jacobs a housewife single handedly stood up to robert moses new york city s powerful master builder and other city planners who sought first to level her greenwich village neighborhood and then to drive a highway through it jacobs s most effective weapons in these david versus goliath battles and in

writing her book were her powers of observation and common sense what is missing from such discussions and other myths about jacobson according to peter laurence is a critical examination of how she arrived at her ideas about city life laurence shows that although jacobson had only a high school diploma she was nevertheless immersed in an elite intellectual community of architects and urbanists becoming jane jacobson is an intellectual biography that chronicles jacobson's development influences and writing career and provides a new foundation for understanding death and life and her subsequent books laurence explains how jacobson's ideas developed over many decades and how she was influenced by members of the traditions she was critiquing including architectural forum editor douglas haskell shopping mall designer victor gruen housing advocate catherine bauer architect louis kahn philadelphia city planner edmund bacon urban historian lewis mumford and the british writers at the architectural review rather than discount the power of jacobson's critique or contributions laurence asserts that death and life was not the spontaneous epiphany of an amateur activist but the product of a professional writer and experienced architectural critic with deep knowledge about the renewal and dynamics of american cities

in this classic text jane jacobson set out to produce an attack on current city planning and rebuilding and to introduce new principles by which these should be governed the result is one of the most stimulating books on cities ever written throughout the post war period planners temperamentally unsympathetic to cities have been let loose on our urban environment inspired by the ideals of the garden city or le corbusier's radiant city they have dreamt up ambitious projects based on self contained neighbourhoods super blocks rigid scientific plans and endless acres of grass yet they seldom stop to look at what actually works on the ground the real vitality of cities argues jacobson lies in their diversity architectural variety teeming street life and human scale it is only when we appreciate such fundamental realities that we can hope to create cities that are safe interesting and economically viable as well as places that people want to live in perhaps the most influential single work in the history of town planning jacobson has a powerful sense of narrative a lively wit a talent for surprise and the ability to touch the emotions as well as the mind new york times book review

jane jacobson is an icon in urban planning she became world famous with her book the death and life of great american cities through her book and her street level activism in 1960s new york she became a key figure in urban planning issues and her efforts following her breakthrough have been continuously interpreted and discussed in this

anthology thirteen writers consider unique aspects of the burning questions she raises concerning what fundamentally makes a society sustainable together the contributors provide a sweeping portrait of jacobs activities from the 1930s to the 2000s and situate her work in contemporary contexts

despite having no formal training in urban planning jane jacobs deftly explores the strengths and weaknesses of policy arguments put forward by american urban planners in the era after world war ii they believed that the efficient movement of cars was of more value in the development of us cities than the everyday lives of the people living there by carefully examining their relevance in her 1961 book the death and life of great american cities jacobs dismantles these arguments by highlighting their shortsightedness she evaluates the information to hand and comes to a very different conclusion that urban planners ruin great cities because they don't understand that it is a city's social interaction that makes it great proposals and policies that are drawn from planning theory do not consider the social dynamics of city life they are in thrall to futuristic fantasies of a modern way of living that bears no relation to reality or to the desires of real people living in real spaces professionals lobby for separation and standardization splitting commercial residential industrial and cultural spaces but a truly visionary approach to urban planning should incorporate spaces with mixed uses together with short walkable blocks large concentrations of people and a mix of new and old buildings this creates true urban vitality

this volume begins with the premise that the deepest respect is shown through honest critique one of the greatest problems in understanding the influence of the author on cities and planning is that she has for much of the past five decades been saint jane the housewife who upended urban renewal and gave us back our cities over time she has become a saintly stick figure a font of simple wisdom for urban health that allows many to recite her ideas and few to understand their complexity the author has been the victim of her own success this book gives this important thinker the respect she deserves reminding planning professionals of the full range and complexity of her ideas and offering thoughtful critiques on the unintended consequences of her ideas on cities and planning today it also looks at the international relevance or lack thereof of her work with essays on urbanism in abu dhabi argentina china the netherlands and elsewhere

jane jacobs's famous book the death and life of great american cities 1961 has challenged the discipline of urban planning and led to a paradigm shift controversial in

the 1960s most of her ideas became generally accepted within a decade or so after publication not only in north america but worldwide as the articles in this volume demonstrate based on cross disciplinary and transnational approaches this book offers new insights into her complex and often contrarian way of thinking as well as analyses of her impact on urban planning theory and the consequences for planning practice now more than 50 years after the initial publication in a period of rapid globalisation and deregulated approaches in planning new challenges arise the contributions in this book argue that it is not possible simply to follow jane jacobs s ideas to the letter but instead it is necessary to contextualize them to look for relevant lessons for cities and planners and critically to re evaluate why and how some of her ideas might be updated bringing together an international team of scholars and writers this volume develops conclusions based on new research as to how her work can be re interpreted under different circumstances and utilized in the current debate about the proclaimed millennium of the city the 21st century

three books all written by women in the early 1960s changed the way we looked at the world and ourselves rachel carson s silent spring betty friedan s the feminine mystique and jane jacobs s the death and life of great american cities all three books created revolutions in their respective spheres of influence and nothing affected city planning and architecture or the way we think about how life is lived in densely packed urban centers more than jane jacobs s far sighted polemic here is the first book for young people about this heroine of common sense a woman who never attended college but whose observations determination and independent spirit led her to far different conclusions than those of the academics who surrounded her illustrated with almost a hundred images including a great number of photos never before published this story of a remarkable woman will introduce her ideas and her life to young readers many of whom have grown up in neighborhoods that were saved by her insights it will inspire young people and readers of all ages and demonstrate that we learn vital life lessons from observing and thinking and not just accepting what passes as conventional wisdom

today we take for granted the wisdom of renovating old factory buildings into malls or condos of making once decaying waterfronts like baltimore s and new york s into vibrant public spaces of protecting historic buildings under landmark laws or of building public housing on a human scale rather than as high rises in contemporary cities it is now common for community groups to plant gardens in empty lots and to buy abandoned apartment buildings from the city for a dollar and fix them up but these and other urban

planning policies and practices have not always been accepted before they became widespread practice they were the visionary ideas of the writer and urban commentator jane jacobs best known in the united states for her path breaking efforts in preserving the character of greenwich village jacobs is the author of the classic 1961 book the death and life of great american cities this book which launched her career is arguably one of the most influential works ever published in urban studies architectural critic herbert muschamp wrote in the new york times that its publication was one of twentieth century architecture s most traumatic events jacobs s ideas and work alice sparberg alexiou tells the remarkable story of a woman who without any formal training in planning became a prominent and effective spokesperson for sensible urban change besides writing the seminal book about contemporary cities jacobs organized successful community battles in new york against powerful interests she resisted urban renewal in the west village in the 1960s helped defeat the lower manhattan expressway advocated the pleasures of street life that she called sidewalk ballet and opposed the original twin towers plans she was also active in the anti vietnam war movement which eventually led her to move to canada there she continued both her writing and her grass roots activism including helping to prevent the construction of an expressway that would have cut through several neighborhoods in toronto based on a rich array of interviews and primary source material this book brings long overdue attention to jacobs s far reaching influence as an original and prescient thinker cities don t provide some insight into in page after page we discover that there is also much about cities today that we owe to the insights and work of jane jacobs

in this book jane jacobs building on the work of her debut the death and life of great american cities investigates the delicate way cities balance the interplay between the domestic production of goods and the ever changing tide of imports using case studies of developing cities in the ancient pre agricultural world and contemporary cities on the decline like the financially irresponsible new york city of the mid sixties jacobs identifies the main drivers of urban prosperity and growth often via counterintuitive and revelatory lessons

examines jane jacobs s seven major books to explain her thinking on cities nations and economies and suggests the continuing relevance of her thought to today s challenges

for students teachers and curious minds our carefully structured jargon free series helps you really get to grips with brilliant intellectuals and their inherently complex theories

written in an accessible and engaging way each book takes you through the life and influences of these great thinkers then takes a deep dive into three of their key theories in plain english smart thinking made easy jane jacobs was an urbanist activist and pioneer and one of the most influential thinkers of the 20th century yet she remains hugely underrated possibly because she was a woman writing in a male dominated field the aim of this book is to bring jacobs highly original ideas and perceptive insights to light looking first at who she was as a person where and how she lived and how her ferocious intellect led her to uncharted frontiers of thought presenting her writings in three core chapters who the hell is jane jacobs looks at not only how jacobs ideas about cities and the economy evolved but how these ideas play out in contemporary society jacobs shows us how society is about people not money or power

jane jacobs the death and life of great american cities was published in 1961 and is now generally considered one of the most important books ever written on cities and city life at a time when suburbia appeared to be human destiny and architectural and urban theorists questioned whether the city should survive jacobs taught people to see understand and love cities again the book continues to be widely studied and discussed but is seldom read and understood in its entirety this guidebook will help readers both pull the text apart and tie it up together this guidebook includes a chapter by chapter exploration of the key arguments and ideas in the text a brief biography of jane jacobs examining her influences and the context in which the death and life was produced an outline of the book s critical reception over the past fifty years and its contemporary relevance a comprehensive bibliography of both jacobs writing and writing about her

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