Uncovering the Unconscious Dimensions of Planning
Using Culture as a Tool to Analyse Spatial Planning Practices

FRANK OTHENGRAFEN
HafenCity University Hamburg, Germany

ASHGATE
Contents

List of Figures ix
List of Maps xi
List of Tables xiii
Preface xv

1 Introduction: Why Study Planning Culture? Planning Culture as a Determinant of Planning Practices 1

Planning Culture as a Determinant of Planning Practices 2
Purpose of this Publication: Uncovering Planning Culture 7
How to Research Planning Cultures? 9
Outline of the Book 18

PART I: THE CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR ANALYSING CULTURES 21

2 Spatial Planning and Development in Europe: The Importance of Cultural Contexts 23

The Concept of Spatial Planning 24
The 'Cultural Turn' and its Impact on Spatial Development 26
Cultural Variety as a Principle: Culture and its Impact on European Spatial Planning Policies 29

3 Contemporary Spatial Planning Models and the Absence of Culture 35

Planning Theory and the Concept of Culture 35
Comparative Studies of Planning Systems and Processes 40
Conclusions 48

4 Culture as an Organising Category: How to Analyse Culture and Its Impact on Planning Systematically? 51

The Concept of Culture 51
The Role of Culture in Management and Organisational Sciences as well as in Cross-cultural Studies 56
Conclusions 68
The Role of Culture in Sociology
Conclusions

5 The Interpretative Framework: A General Outline for the Analysis of Planning Practices

Manifest Cultural Elements, Visible Artefacts and Symbols Representing Firsthand Perceptions of Planning Cultures
The Core Culture or Non-manifest Culture Elements: Unconscious Assumptions, Taken-for-granted Beliefs, Frames and Habits
Conclusions: How to Use the Interpretative Framework

PART II: EMPIRICAL STUDIES OF PLANNING PRACTICE

6 Planning Culture in Hamburg, Germany: Between Thoroughness, Uncertainty Avoidance and Commercial Pragmatism

Metropolis Hamburg – A Growing City
Local Self-government and Urban Planning in Hamburg
Example I: The HafenCity Hamburg – An Extension of the Inner City
Example II: The Strategic Spatial Vision for Hamburg 2020 – More City in the City
Conclusions: Thoroughness, Commercial Pragmatism and Integrated Planning Approaches – Planning Culture in Hamburg, Germany

7 Planning Cultures in Helsinki, Finland: Local Autonomy, Romantic Rural Views and Social Justice

Helsinki City Region – Current Developments
Local Self-government and Urban Planning in Helsinki
Example I: The New Residential and Working District of Jätkäsaari
Example II: The Greater Helsinki Vision 2050 Competition
Conclusions: Local Autonomy, Romantic Rural Views and Social Justice – Planning Culture in Helsinki, Finland

8 Synopsis of the Empirical Results and an Evaluation of the Interpretative Framework

Planning Practices in Helsinki and Hamburg: Results of the Interpretative Framework
Reconsidering the Interpretative Framework
### PART III: GENERALISATION OF THE RESULTS – DEDUCTION OF A THEORETICAL MODEL FOR THE SYSTEMATIC ANALYSIS OF PLANNING CULTURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>The 'Culturised Planning Model': A Tool to Analyse the Taken-for-granted Routines and Perceptions Underlying Planning Practices</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Culturised Planning Model</td>
<td>186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>How Should We Use the Culturised Planning Model for Planning Theory?</td>
<td>197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Conclusions: Reflections on the Culturised Planning Model</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*References* 205  
*Index* 227