

Course Syllabus

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115 Avery

Tuesday 1-3pm, Fall, 2019

Military Urbanism in the Early Modern Era

The technology of gunpowder artillery caused a military revolution in Early Modern Europe (ca. 1450-1800). Innovations in warfare created a new type of fortification, bastioned, more geometrical and solid, dense and efficient infrastructure and building typologies, and shifted and vastly expanded Europe's border networks.

France was arguably the most important European military and political force of the latter part of this period. Sébastien Le Prestre de Vauban (1633-1707), engineer to King Louis XIV, crystallized and catalyzed military engineering and planning trends in all European cities that had been developing since the mid-fifteenth century. Vauban was a master of the art of attacking and defending bastioned fortifications. Yet he approached his projects as multi-faceted, posited on demographic, political and economic surveys. From positioning strongholds along the border to planning civilian buildings to redesigning barracks including the placement of individual beds, he aspired to total spatial mastery. The scale of his *oeuvre* is vast: nine new towns and one hundred sixty cities in total. UNESCO World Heritage status was granted to a network of twelve exemplary sites in 20008. Ten years later, classification challenges us to understand a border that is both open and closed built by a figure who is a national hero yet little known outside France today.

The seventeenth century military practices of Vauban were widely influential until the late nineteenth century. His practices were taught at West Point, his treatise translated into Russian and Turkish. Rationalized border fortification gave rise to the open city inside the territory, beginning with the pioneering de-fortification of Paris in 1670. Even when urban walls began to be dismantled and were often absent in plans for new Enlightenment cities such as Washington DC, cities continued to be places of surveillance, while, on a larger scale, fortifications were still a part of their design, implicitly or explicitly. Napoleon favored field battles supported by his conquests in a Europe-wide network of fortresses, arsenals and military cities. In the second half of the

nineteenth century, Viollet-le-Duc underscored the ever-growing scale and costs of warfare between nation states in the Industrial era, looking ahead to World War I. Throughout we will make trans-historical comparisons and find how the past impacted the present. We will make spatial and philosophical comparisons with forms of current urban design, warfare and surveillance such as the use of drones, and cyber warfare.

The structure of each seminar session will be part lecture and part reading discussion. It is hoped that the sessions will be lively and that students will bring their own viewpoints as historians and contemporary designers to the table. Readings have been selected both for their informational content, their historical importance and their methodological diversity. Students are expected to come to class prepared, having done the readings. Unless indicated, all assigned readings are available on the class Courseworks/Canvas site.

Grading

- Class participation and attendance. 10%
- Lead 1 response session in a group. Write a reading response (2-3 pages each) on the readings from the week you present. Your group will read excerpts from your responses in class and prepare questions for the class to answer (sign up will be posted on Canvas, Sept. 11). You may work alone or in a group. Your texts are your visual material. This is a writing exercise. Due the week you present. 20%
- Paper or project topic, outline and preliminary bibliography. Due November 6. 15%
- In-class presentation: November 12, 19, 26. 15%
- Paper: Due Dec. 14 (extensions for Dec. 16 upon request), 12-15 pages or the visual equivalent. Visual submissions must include bibliography and written explanation of methods: 40%

Class Schedule and Readings

1. **Sept. 3: Military space in history**

- Paul Virilio, "Military Space," in James der Derian, ed., *The Virilio Reader*, Blackwell Publishers, Malden, MA, 1998, ch. 2, pp. 22-28.
- Geoffrey Parker, "The Military Revolution Revisited," in *The military revolution: military innovation and the rise of the west, 1500-1800*, New York, Cambridge University Press, 1988, Introduction and ch. 1, pp. 1-44

2. **Sept. 10: Technology of siege warfare**

- George Rothrock, "Introduction", Sebastien Le Prestre de Vauban, *A Manual of Siegecraft and Fortification*, Ann Arbor, U. of Michigan Press, 1968, pp. 1-16
- Paddy Griffith, *The Vauban Fortifications of France*, Oxford, Osprey Publishing, 2006. (available to purchase through Amazon and in Kindle edition).

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3. **Sept. 17: Military city, civilian city.**

Reading presentation: Katinka, Maini, Zhibin

- Christopher Duffy, "The Fortress and Humankind," in *Siege Warfare: the Fortress in the Early Modern World 1494-1660*, Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1979, ch. 10, pp. 247-264
- Ryan Bishop and Gregory Clancey, "The City-as-Target, or Perpetuation and Death," in Stephen Graham, ed., *Cities, War, and Terrorism. Towards and Urban Geopolitics*, Blackwell, 2004, pp. 54-74.
- Horst de la Croix "Military Architecture and the Radial City Plan in Sixteenth Century Italy", in *The Art Bulletin*, Dec. 1960, vol XII no. 4, pp. 263-290. -- E-Reserve.

4. **Sept. 24: Military urbanism in Early Modern Europe**

Reading presentation Hyung, Yanni, Becky, Andrew, Sanggyu, Tim

- Spiro Kostof, "The Grand Manner," in *The City Shaped. Urban Patterns and Meanings Through History*, Thames and Hudson, 1991, Ch. 4, pp. 209-277
- Victoria Sanger "Vauban Urbaniste" and "Vauban Architecte" in Warmoes and Sanger, dir., *Vauban, bâtisseur du Roi-Soleil*, Somogy, Cité de l'architecture, Musée des Plans-reliefs, Paris, 2007, pp. 214-225; 259-265. Alternately read Catherine D. Miller and Victoria Sanger, Unpublished English translation of "Vauban urban planner"

5. **Oct. 1: Intra-mural Protection: policing and the panopticon**

Reading presentation: Gabriel, Jack, Morgan, Luiza

- Arlette Farge, "Police," in *Encyclopedia of the Enlightenment*, ed. Michel Delon, trans. Philip Stewart and Gwen Wells (Chicago: Fitzroy Dearborn, 2001): 2:1063-69.
- Michel Foucault, lecture of April 5, 1978, in *Security, Territory, Population: Lectures at the Collège de France, 1977-78*, ed. Michel Senellart, trans. Graham Burchell (Houndmill: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007): 333-61
- Richard Ingersoll, "Piazza di Ponte and the Military Origins of Panopticism," in *Streets: Critical Perspectives on Public Spaces*, Zeynep Celik et al. (London and Berkeley, 1994) 177-187.

6. **Oct. 8: Military Strategy**

Reading presentation: Dalton, Julia, Kate

- Jamel Oswald, "The Perfect Siege of Ath", and "Implementing the Paradigm Siege", in *Vauban under Siege: Engineering Efficiency and Martial Vigor in the War of the Spanish Succession History of Warfare*, Volume 41, Brill, 2007, 2 and 5, pp. 21-45; 123-172. EBOOKS
<http://site.ebrary.com.ezproxy.cul.columbia.edu/lib/columbia/docDetail.action?docID=10234964>. Henry Guerlac, "Vauban", in Peter Paret, ed., *Makers of Modern Strategy: from Machiavelli to the Military Age*, Oxford University Press, 1986, pp. 81-90
 - Viollet-le-Duc, *Annals of a Fortress*, Benjamin Bucknall, trans., Boston, James Osgood and Co., 1876, "Conclusion" pp. 357-383
 - Carl Von Clausewitz, Excerpts, *On War*, 1832,

7. **Oct. 15: Open City/Closed City. Walls, nationalism and UNESCO World Heritage.**

Reading presentation: Stone, Michael, Tianyu

- Victoria Sanger "The French Collection of Plans-Reliefs as Political Instrument. Exhibition Review: La France en Relief" *The Journal of Architecture*, 18:1, 2013, 115-134.
- UNESCO, "Fortifications of Vauban", <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1283/>, accessed 9/3/2018.-- skim
- Simon Pepper, "The Meaning of the Renaissance Fortress," in *Architectural Association Quarterly*, 5 (1973), pp. 22-27
- Peter Sahlins, *The Making of France and Spain in the Pyrenees*, University of California Press, 1989. "Introduction" pp. 1-22; pp. 164-167; 192-197-- choose this reading or the next by Bruce and Creighton

OR

- David Bruce, Oliver Creighton, "Contested Identities: the Dissonant Heritage of European Town Walls and Walled Towns," *International Journal of Heritage Studies*, 12:3, 234-254, 2006. -- choose this reading or the above by Sahlins

8. **Oct. 22: Eighteenth Century and American Fortifications**

Reading presentation: Daniel, Jacob, Yoonwon

- Victoria Sanger, Book review of Janis Langins, *Conserving the Enlightenment : French Military Engineering from Vauban to the Revolution*, MIT Press, 2004, in *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*, 2006, v. 65 p. 632-633
- Coast Defense Study Group website <http://cdsg.org>
- Emanuel Raymond Lewis, *Seacoast Fortifications of the United States. An Introductory History*, Naval Institute Press, Annapolis Maryland, 1970.
- National Park Service, Governors Island Website <http://www.gov/gois/learn/historyculture/index.htm>

9. **Oct 29: Field trip to lower Manhattan and Governor's Island. Subway: line 1 South Ferry.** First meeting point: 12:30 at Castle Clinton (AKA "The Battery). Second meeting point 1:45 ferry terminal for Governor's Island, one building north of the Staten Island terminal. Ferry at 2pm to Governor's Island. Return ferry returns to Manhattan at 3:45.

November 5 (No class, Election Day): paper and project topic, outline and preliminary bibliography due November 6

10. **Nov. 12: Student presentations**

11. **Nov. 19: Student presentations.**

12. **Nov. 26: Student presentations.**

Dec. 13: Papers Due.

Additional Bibliography

- J Ashworth, *War and the City*, London and New York, Routledge, 1991
- William Beik, "The Absolutism of Louis XIV a Social Collaboration," in *Past & Present*, 188, 2005, pp. 195-224
 - Cesare Birignani, *The Police and the City: Paris 1660-1750*, D, Columbia University, 2013.
 - Jeremy Black, *A Short History*, Continuum, London and New York, 2009.
 - Anne Blanchard, *Vauban*, Paris, Fayard, 1996.
 - _____, *Dictionnaire des ingénieurs militaires 1691-1791*, Montpellier, Université Paul Valéry, 1981.
- David Buisseret, *Ingénieurs et Fortifications avant Vauban: l'organisation d'un service royale aux XVIe-XVIIe siècles*, Paris, Ministère de la jeunesse, de l'éducation nationale et de la recherche, Comité des travaux historiques et scientifiques, c2002.
- Jean-François Cabestan, *La conquête du plain-pied: l'immeuble à Paris au XVIIe siècle*, Paris, Picard, 2004.
- Donatella Calabi, "The 'City of the Jews'", in Robert C. Davis and Benjamin Ravid, eds., *The Jews of Early Modern Venice*, John Hopkins University, Baltimore and London, 2001, pp. 31-49.
- André Charbonneau, Yvon Desloges, Marc LaFrance, *Québec, the Fortified City: from the 17th to the 19th century*, Ottawa, Parks Canada, 1982
- Jean-Louis Cohen, *Architecture in Uniform, Designing and Building for the Second World War*, CCA, 2011.
- Joan Dejean, *Literary Fortifications: Rousseau, Laclos, Sade*, Princeton University Press, 1984.
- Christopher Duffy, *Fire and Stone: the Science of Fortress Warfare 1660-1860*, Newton Abbot, David and Charles, 1975
- _____, *The Fortress in the Age of Vauban and Frederick the Great 1660-1789*, London and Boston, Routledge and Keegan Paul, 1985
- _____, *The Military Experience in the Age of Reason*, Athenaeum, New York, 1988
- Arlette Farge, *Subversive Words: Public Opinion in Eighteenth-Century France*, trans. Rosemary Morris, University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 1994.
- Forensic Architecture, ed., *The Architecture of Public Truth*, Sternberg press, 2014
- Michel Foucault, *Security, Territory, Population*, Lectures at the Collège de France, 1977-1978, edited by Michel Senellart, General editors: François

Ewald and Alessandro Fontana, English Series Editor: Arnold I. Davidson, translated by Graham Burchell.

- Michel Foucault, "Panopticism," in *Discipline and Punish*, New York, Pantheon Books, 1977, pp. 195-228.
- Stephen Graham, ed., *Cities, War, and Terrorism. Towards and Urban Geopolitics*, Blackwell, 2004.
- Jean-Louis Harouel, "La Tradition du règlement," in *La Fabrication des villes*, Xavier Malverti and Aleth Picar dir., GEVR, Grenoble, 1995
- _____, *L'Embellissement des villes, l'urbanisme français au XVIIIe siècle*, Picard 1993.
- J. Hebbert and J. A. Rothrock, *Soldier of France: Sebastien Le Prestre de Vauban 1633-1707*, New York, Bern, Frankfurt am Main, Paris, Peter Lang, 1990.
- Horst de la Croix, *Military Considerations in City Planning: Fortifications*, Braziller, 1971.
- Quentin Hughes, *Military architecture: the art of defence from earliest times to the Atlantic Wall*, Liphook, Hants, Beaufort, 1991.
- James E. King, "The Mechanics of the Regime of Order", in *Science and Rationalism in the government of Louis XIV*, *The Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science*, Ser. 66, 1949.
- Janis Langins, *Conserving the Enlightenment: French Military Engineering from Vauban to the Revolution*, Cambridge, MIT Press, 2004.
- David Lyon, ed., *Theorizing Surveillance, The panopticon and beyond*, Willan Publishing, 2006. -
- John Lynn, *The Wars of Louis XIV, 1664-1714*, London, New York, Longman, 1999.
- David Lyon, "The search for surveillance theories," in David Lyon, ed., *Theorizing Surveillance. The panopticon and beyond*, Willan publishing, 2006, pp. 3-20.
- Niccolò Machiavelli, *The Prince*, (1st Italian edition 1532) The Project Gutenberg EBook of The Prince, by Nicolo Machiavelli, Translator: W. K. Marriott. Release Date: February 11, 2006
- Thierry Mariage, *The World of André Le Nôtre*, Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania Press, 1999. AA531 L54 M332.
- Emilie d'Orgeix, Victoria Sanger, Michèle Virol, Isabelle Warmoes, *Vauban, la pierre et la plume*, Gérard Klopp, Editions du Patrimoine, Paris, 2007
- Emilie d'Orgeix, *Au pied du mur. Bâtir le vide autour des villes (XVIe-XVIIIe siècle)*, Brussels, Mardaga, 2019
- Michel Parent, Jacques Verroust, *Vauban*, Paris, J. Fréal, 1971.
- _____, *Vauban : Encyclopédiste avant la lettre*, Paris, Berger-Levrault, 1983.
- Peter Paret, ed., *Makers of Modern Strategy: from Machiavelli to the Military Age*, Oxford University Press, 1986.
- Geoffrey Parker, *The military revolution: military innovation and the rise of the west, 1500-1800*, New York, Cambridge University Press, 1988.
- Stéphane Perréon, *Vauban, l'arpenteur du pré carré*, Ellipses, Paris 2017.
- Antoine Picon, *French Architects and Engineers in the Age of Enlightenment*, Cambridge University Press, 1991.

- _____, dir., *La ville et la guerre*, Editions de l'imprimeur, 1996.
- Martha D. Pollak, "Art and War: Renaissance and Baroque military Treatises on Military Baroque Architecture", in *Military Architecture, Cartography and the Representation of the Early Modern European City*. Chicago: The Newberry Library, 1991.
- Martha Pollak, *Cities at War: Baroque Fortifications and military Urbanism*, Cambridge University Press, 2010.
- Philippe Prost, *Les Forteresses de l'Empire: Fortifications, villes de guerre et arsenaux napoleoniens*, Paris, Editions du Moniteur, 1991.
- _____, *Vauban, le style de l'intelligence*, Archibooks + Sautereau, 2007.
- Pierre Rocolle, 2000 ans de fortification française, Limoges, Charles Lavauzelle, 1973, 2 vols
- Victoria Sanger, Isabelle Warmoes, "The Urban Arches of Louis XIV," August 2000, paper presented at the specialist session "City Gates: Negotiation and Nexus," Fifth International Conference on Urban History, Berlin, Germany, *Journal of Urban History*, special issue "The European City," January, 2003.
 - Victoria Sanger, *Military Town Planning under Louis XIV: Vauban's Practice and Method (1668- 1707)*, D. dissertation, Columbia University, 2000.
 - _____, "The French Collection of Plans-Reliefs as Political Instrument. Exhibition Review: La France en Relief" *Journal of Architecture*, 18, no. 1, Feb. 8, 2013, pp. 115-134.
 - Vincent Scully, "Shape of France: Gardens, Fortifications and Modern Urbanism" in *Architecture: The Natural and the Manmade*, London, St.Martin's, Press, 1991, pp. 275-311.
 - Tracy, James, ed., *City Walls: the Urban Enceinte in Global Perspective*, University of Minnesota, Center for Early Modern History, *Studies in Comparative Early Modern History*, 4, Cambridge University Press, 2000.
 - Paul Virilio, *Bunker Archeology*, George Collins trans., Princeton Architectural Press, 1994.
 - _____, *City of Panic*, Julie Rose trans., Berg, 2005.
 - Steve Redhead, ed., *The Paul Virilio Reader*, Columbia University Press, New York, 2004.
 - Vickery, Amanda, *Behind Closed Doors: At Home in Georgian England*, New Haven, Yale UP, 2009.
 - Michèle Virol, *Vauban: de la Gloire du Roi au Service de l'Etat*, Seyssel, Champ Vallon, 2003 --
 - Thierry Martin, Michèle Virol éd., *Vauban, architecte de la modernité?*, Cahiers de la MSHE Ledoux, Presses universitaires de Franche-Comté, 2008.
 - Isabelle Warmoes and Victoria Sanger, dir., *Vauban, bâtisseur du Roi-Soleil*, Somogy, Cité de l'architecture, Musée des Plans-reliefs, Paris, 2007
 - Eyal Weizman, *Hollow Land: Israel's Architecture of Occupation*, Verso, 2007

Primary Sources

- Carl von Clausewitz, *On War*, 1832.
- Sébastien Le Prestre de Vauban, *De l'attaque et de la defense des places: par Mr. de Vauban*, La Haye, P. de Hondt, 1737, Google Books, Avery Classics, AA490 V46
- _____, *A manual of siegecraft and fortification (mémoire pour servir d'instruction dans la conduite des sièges et dans la défense des places)*, George Rothrock, trans., Ann Arbor, U. of Michigan Press, 1968.
- Michèle Virol, ed., *Louis XIV et Vauban, Correspondances et Agendas*, Champ Vallon, Cézerieu, 2017.
- Michèle Virol, ed., *Oisivetés de Monsieur de Vauban, ou ramas de plusieurs mémoires de sa façon sur différents sujets*, Seyssel, Champ Vallon, 2007.
- Albert Rochas d'Aiglun, ed. *Vauban, sa famille et ses écrits ses oisivetés et sa correspondance : analyse et extraits*, Geneva, Slatkine Reprints, 1972.