



The Evolution of Planning Thought

Michael Batty, CV

Prof. of Spatial Analysis & Planning, University College London, GB

Michael Batty was trained as an urban designer and town planner at the University of Manchester from 1962 to 1969. During this period, he was heavily influenced by his mentors Brian McLoughlin and George Chadwick, who embarked on developing the systems approach to planning. He worked then in planning processes and design methods but these were somewhat overtaken by the development of mathematical models of city systems which has constituted his main research area since those days. He is now a Professor at the Bartlett School in University College London where he is Chairman of the Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis (CASA), which he set up in 1995. He held a joint appointment between the Department of Geography and the Bartlett School until 2003 when he became Bartlett Professor of Planning. Prior to his current position, he was Professor, Head of Department of City and Regional Planning, and Dean at the University of Cardiff (1979 to 1990) and Director of the National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis at the State University of New York at Buffalo (1990-1995). He has worked on computer models of cities and their visualisation since the 1970s and has published several books, such as *Cities and Complexity* (2005) and most recently *The New Science of Cities* (2013). His blog www.complexcity.info covers the science underpinning the technology of cities and his posts and lectures on big data and smart cities are at www.spatialcomplexity.info. His research group is working on simulating long-term structural change and dynamics in cities. Recently, he has been exploring the resilience of networks and population locations in cities to climate change particularly sea level rise as well as shorter term changes related to transport networks and their disruption. He has been editor of the journal *Environment and Planning B* since 1981. He is a Fellow of the British Academy (FBA) and the Royal Society (FRS) and was awarded the CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours in 2004.