

tion of offshore petroleum reservoirs. Short descriptions of artificial islands, production platforms and drilling jack-ups, semi-submersible and drilling vessels underline the complexity of offshore oil production. Assessment of the frontiers of exploration and production in deeper water and in higher latitudes indicates the challenges facing the oil industry, and presents the reader with a rough estimate of the huge costs involved in offshore industrial development. A chapter is dedicated to the petroleum reservoirs of the North Sea, discussing the policies of Britain and Norway in licensing and taxation of their petroleum industry. Earney then discusses the geopolitics of offshore oil, briefly reviewing the conflicting petroleum claims of the People Republic of China and its neighbors in the Yellow and South China Sea, the disputes between Greece and Turkey on the offshore petroleum reservoirs of the Aegean Sea, and the Malvinas-Falkland conflict between Argentina and Britain.

The book contains several scientific apparati that help the reader in further exploring the various aspects of marine mineral resources. Detailed notes follow each chapter, the index is very detailed, and the extensive bibliography at the end of the book gives the reader a useful tool for further reading.

Unfortunately, in spite of the wealth of multidisciplinary information, the principal weakness of the book cannot be ignored. The book covers various scientific disciplines that range from tectonics to engineering, and from manganese mineralogy to the legal definition of the Exclusive Economic Zone. It contains large amounts of economic and technical data as well. However, that wide scope is accompanied by a narrative that seems to be superficial in places. It might be expected that a book bearing the title of *Marine Mineral Resources* would include chapters on the geological aspects of the tectonics of the sea floor, on the mineralogy of the economically important minerals, and on the geological principles of petroleum exploration. Some of that information is included in the book, but it is scattered over several chapters and not presented in an organized manner.

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JERUSALEM NEIGHBORHOODS, PLANNING AND BY-LAWS 1855-1930 by
Ruth Kark, Mount Scopus Publications, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem:
Magnes Press, 1991.

There is a traditional belief that planning, building and design is not a Jewish profession, that towns and neighborhoods were never built by Jews, and that their attitude to land and territory was always more spiritual than practical. As a people that lived in exile for more than 2000 years, without

a country of their own, the Jews lost any direct attachment to their physical surroundings. Therefore, an agreeable surprise is to be found in the collection of planning and building by-laws on Jewish neighborhoods in Jerusalem which Ruth Kark presents in her fascinating new book comprising a period from the mid-19th century till the 1930s.

Jerusalem has undergone great changes since the second half of the last century. The rapid development outside the Old City walls was initiated by members of different ethnic and religious communities. Muslims, Christians and Jews, by their movement out of the Old City before World War I, built new neighborhoods reflecting cultural and social norms. At the same time these neighborhoods preserved the pattern of traditional segregation on a religious, ethnic and communal basis.

Until the mid-19th century the Muslims had built outside the walls mainly religious buildings, cemeteries and seasonal residences, but from the 1890s onward they began to build permanent buildings. Christian neighborhoods were built by members of various western religious orders, the architecture of which was outstanding. Jewish neighborhoods were founded by societies which were especially created for the purpose of new Jewish settlement. They not only raised funds for housing and infrastructure but even prepared by-laws which embodied their approach and philosophy to communal life. In their by-laws they incorporated Arab building traditions, modern European architectural influences, Jewish legal rulings, and by-laws of the Jewish communities from the founders' countries of origin, many of them outlined in this book.

What can be more interesting than by-laws such as: "The layout of houses and buildings shall be clarified in detail in the society charter, and herewith it shall be explained in brief that the buildings shall enclose the plot on all four sides, like a box, and each house shall have a yard and be entitled to use it .." (p. 108)? Or "The committee shall endeavor to build a cistern, and all the society members shall make equal contributions to its construction, and rulings with regard to water for the neighbors and for the builders..." (p. 113)? Regarding relations between neighbors we may find that "If someone takes possession of two houses, or if relatives or friends wish to obtain houses next door to each other, the committee shall make every attempt to please them, and if there is a price differential to be paid, the relative or friend who is willing to pay the added cost shall receive precedence over someone else making a similar offer" (p. 115). Or "Any quarrels between neighbors concerning damages and trespassing shall be brought before the executive, and its decisions shall be binding, whether between one neighbor and another, or between a member and the society" (p. 160).

These by-laws testify norms, views and aspirations of the founders and builders and are important documents about urban planning at those times.

Many of the neighborhoods in Jerusalem were later patterned after European models, mainly British and German. While at the beginning the residents abided by the by-laws, with time the degree of adherence to them diminished. In most neighborhoods many structures were added to the original buildings with a distortion of the original planning, and construction took place in open public areas. Motorization also led to a deviation by widening narrow lanes. Many of the buildings were not properly maintained and old buildings were destroyed. The population has changed in the course of time and the ethnic and socio-economic composition has altered. Original by-laws were cancelled after the land was registered in the name of new buyers.

The book is divided into four parts. Part one deals with the real estate and the housing market in Jerusalem, ownership of land, land prices, rent rates and costs of construction. Part two describes the Christian and Muslim initiators of modern constructions in Jerusalem and the Jewish entrepreneurs. The third part analyzes physical and social planning in Jerusalem during that period of time, while the fourth part illustrates a series of by-laws concerning the main issues mentioned in the former chapters.

More than 50 plates and figures illustrate the history of planning, building and construction in Jerusalem and the atmosphere which existed in those times when Jerusalem began to be settled outside the walls.

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JAFFA, A CITY IN EVOLUTION 1799-1917 by Ruth Kark. Jerusalem: Yad Izhak Ben-Zvi Press, 1990.

This book is an English translation of Ruth Kark's book which was also published by Yad Ben-Zvi in 1984. That volume, in turn, was partially based on Kark's doctoral dissertation entitled "The Development of the Cities of Jerusalem and Jaffa—1840 up to the First World War, A Study in Historical Geography" (unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem 1976). Thanks to this well-edited study, the English language reader can make his acquaintance with another stratum of the urban historical geography of the Holy Land in the contemporary era. The work will serve as a companion to other pioneering studies on Jerusalem during that period, e.g., by Yehoshua Ben Aryeh, which have also appeared recently in English translation.

This volume is a classic study in urban historical geography. The research design is predicated upon the inductive method and the author marshals a wide variety of historical sources to carry it out. This synthesis provides us