The British Welfare State – Failures on the Solent

A Utopian Response

Eastern Dock Terminals
IAIN NAIRN’S SUBTOPIA
a compendium of everything that is evil and wrong in this septic isle

Owen Hatherley
Architecture critic and son of the city of Southampton
Local Government Act 1985
Abolition of 6 Metropolitan counties and the Greater London Council. All councils were controlled by Labour but were over-budget

1981 - Creation of London Docklands Development Corporation
Autonomous local development organisation. Resisted by local municipalities due to its broad powers

1997 onward - Centralised targets and league tables
Promised autonomy and additional funding failed when meeting targets to be delivered

1998 - Creation of Regional Development agencies

2004 - Failed Referendum for devolution in the north east of England

2004 - Introduction of regional spatial strategies

1997|1998 - Devolution in Scotland and Wales and London. Governing assemblies established (with differing powers) in all three, along with a directly elected Mayor for London

2010 onward - Centrally led initiatives such as ‘Free Schools’, removed certain services from local control, to be overseen by Whitehall

2014 - Devolution of powers to Greater Manchester, with a directly elected Mayor. More cities promised power by Coalition government in the next parliament
SOUTHAMPTON’S CIVIC CENTRE – 1937

"Because so much is concentrated in the Civic Centre, Southampton does not put up much of a show of civic architecture elsewhere"

Pevsner’s guide to Hampshire and the Isle of Wight (1967)
Cameron hails plan to fast-track devolution for English cities

Councillors supportive of plan to create combined authority based on Southampton and Portsmouth

Devolve road and rail powers to city regions, urges Institute for Civil Engineers

STAGECOACH BOSS WARNS OF "STATE CONTROL" IN REGIONAL DEVOLUTION
Democratic Deficit
Inadequate Civic Infrastructures

FAILURE

With increasing autonomy and local democratic empowerment being explored; how can Southampton re-imagine its key infrastructures and institutions that underlie the city’s fragile civic fabric and help bind it to the Solent and its citizens?

RESEARCH QUESTION

The design project will centre on a city terminus structure, with rail, cruise and ferry networks converging on the eastern dock to create a new concentrated figurehead for the docklands and the wider city region.

DESIGN BRIEF
The recapturing of Southampton’s Waterfront
Managing Port Expansion
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DESIGN BRIEF
FEDERAL BRITAIN

Greatest democratic reform since Magna Carta
Cities go their own way

IT’S THE CITIES WOT WON IT

FREEDOM FROM LONDON
RBS to be split between regions

UK ports to be broken up

Cities claim rail franchises

NATIONALISATION
BUT NOT AS WE KNOW IT

RADICAL COUNCIL TAKES CONTROL OF NEW CITY STATE
WORKERS COUNCILS
DEMOCRATIC COMPENSATION
In-situ concrete integrated beam deck floor and flexible civic module

Existing concrete quay wall with mooring bollard
Extended quay wall on pile foundations with mooring bollard and rubber fenders

In-situ concrete integrated column and beam deck floor and flexible civic module

Column to pile foundation

In-situ concrete integrated column and beam with IPE column to HE Beam connection

IPE column to precast concrete Double T beam floor
31st March

Slimming club - 9pm  
Pier 1 Berth 6  

Choir practice - 8:30pm  
Pier 1 Berth 8  

Sea Cadets - 7pm  
Pier 2 Berth 17  

Tango classes - 8pm  
Pier 1 Berth 21  

Swimming classes  
see separate timetable  

1st April

Dock Administration Public Meeting - 7pm  
Pier 1 Assembly Rooms A  

Book club - 8pm  
Pier 1 Berth 2  

Exhibition Opening - LS Lowry - 8pm  
Assembly Hall  

2nd April

Quit smoking Clinic - 8 pm  
Pier 1 Berth 6  

Departure of Cunard Queen Mary 2 - 5pm  
Pier 2 Berth A  

Introduction to Foster Parenting - 6pm  
Pier 1 Berth 6
Average water temperature: 28 °C
Room temperature: 20 °C
15 min FOLIMAT in Levelling Compound
4 h
1 h OPTIMAT in Screed 40 mm
Conventional pipe system in Screed
Pipe-Spacing 150 mm
2 hours 4 hours
Underfloor heating with parquet heating time up to a heating power of 45 W/m²