

OIL ESTATES, FIRST GARDEN ESTATES OF IRAN

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Abstract: Discussion and exploration of oil extraction in Iran and Iran's major works and its dramatic social and political providence, of course a major issue that has broad research by the experts in various fields. What has been done so far, although many feature points made valuable and worthy of its place, there is still much neglected aspects and fields of study. This paper seeks to answer this question, which is partly designed and oil settlements established in the Iranian South Oil physical design terms of design and spatial extent of the organization to what extent the spatial organization of ideas impressed garden estates and new towns founded in England in the early years of the twentieth century. The towns near the cities of Abadan, Ahwaz and Mahshahr and several other provinces have made, in common with many designs of new towns and garden estates 'Ebenezer Howard' that answer the research question and provide the relevant sub-questions. Despite the many limitations of current research and the lack of information, budget constraints, the short time has managed to navigate, view and explore other resources available for review on the subject make clear. But this first step is considered to find accurate answers and detailed comprehensive research in this area.

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INTRODUCTION

History of oil exploration and use of pre-Islamic Iran arrives. Ancient Iranian oil as fuel and material for building ships and the insulation of roofs were used, the use of oil and gas as a fuel source in Iran were popular with some of the ancient Temple (Kanaani, 2002). Oil was used in the military for fire purposes of the blockaded castles and "oil ups" were one of the conventional methods (Kanaani, 2002).

It has been said that Nader Shah, in Indian wars, used fiery balls that were thrown into the tar for military purposes. 'Nefatin' oil or a special unit in the army has been used for suicide purposes. Oil and usage to recognize Iran's oil industry began to exploit the natural pond and a record of extracting oil from oil wells.

After the achievement of oil in Masjed Suleiman, and numerous studies in the coastal regions of Khuzestan, the port of Mahshahr and Abadan were the major hubs of oil, which Abadan was a main oil refinery and the port of Mahshahr became the main center for the export of oil in Iran

Seeking grant extraction and exploitation of Iranian oil, excluding the five Northern provinces, Mozaffar Alldin Shah Qajar in the year 1901 ordered William Nacs Darcey to execute the first methods of rotation of drilling oil wells not only in Iran but also the entire Middle East.

Iran's oil industry was founded on 28th May 1901; the first excavations began in some parts of Iran which did not reach a satisfactory result.

Finally, on 26th of May 1908 it was then drilled in Masjed Suleiman and oil tests showed that several attempts have been achieved and what was in search for had been discovered. Total wells drilled in Masjed Suleiman had reached up to thirty loops and the number of workers had reached to 2,500 employees who included drillers, mechanics, accountants and a medical doctor.

THOUGHTS FOR NEW URBANISM_GARDEN ESTATES, EBENZER HOWARD

Industrial Revolution in the second half of the seventeenth century in England and Northern Europe began and gradually expanded over time and most of Europe was involved. This

demographic change in European societies brought under a deep transformation and social mobility that was created. Increased production, the use of industrial machinery and production methods to the individual and mutually beneficial exchange, and consumption that resulted was not manifested in the economic arena.

In the social arena as well as countries affected by the industrial revolution with the release of sanitary conditions, migration to cities and many labor jobs in factories and industrial cities were faced. Industrial population rapidly increased, and physical and social conditions, they simply never did fit the needs of the population. Labor and poor neighborhoods in the city and the margins were at very low in quality of construction, and without any installations and facilities on the urban living conditions, that life in the city synonymous with the decline in life was lonely and dustbin.

Thoughts, ideas and designs of garden estates, were where there not exists unemployment, rural poverty and hardship. Those who studied environmental issues thought about solutions in order to prevent problems and therefore reached the ideas and designs of Ebenezer Howard. The design which developed simplicity, originality, freshness and exquisiteness then combined with the industry and labor work led to the production of materials. The states of Letchworth and Welwyn were the initiators of this frame of mind and way of implementing this plan idea.

OIL COMPANIES IN SOUTHERN PARTS OF IRAN

Iranian Oil Company and England Oil Company, after the nationalization of both, it became the National Iranian Oil Company which its activities in most areas of towns or sites provided accommodation for its staff.

Three samples of oil towns that have more breadth and importance and are still alive and active in this research as 'studies' have been reviewed are; Mahshahr industrial area (figure1), Brein of Abadan (figure2) and the new site of Ahwaz (figure3) and their physical characteristics and physical properties of these three towns and 'garden estates' new Letch worth

(figure4) designs are compared below (Mandan Consultants, 2012).

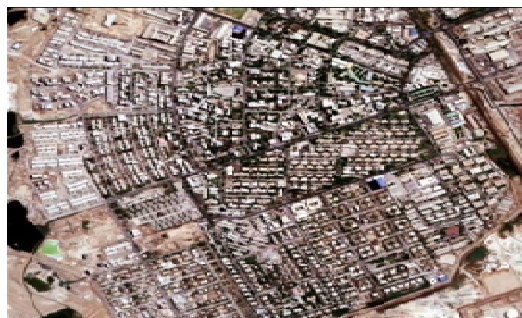


Figure1. Industrial area of Mahshahr

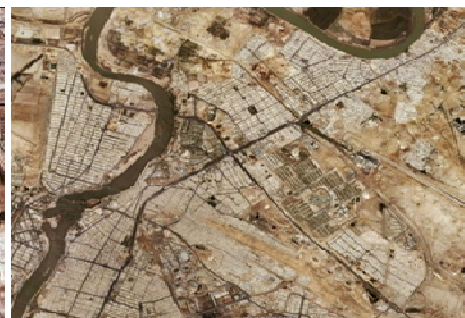


Figure2. Breim, Abadan

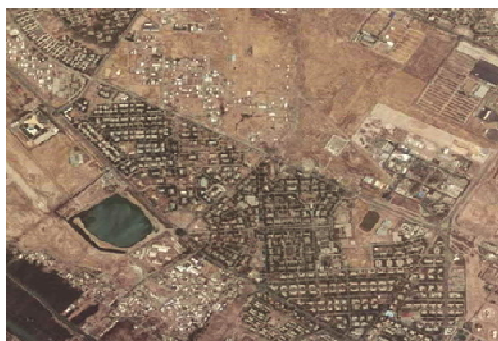


Figure3. New site of Ahwaz

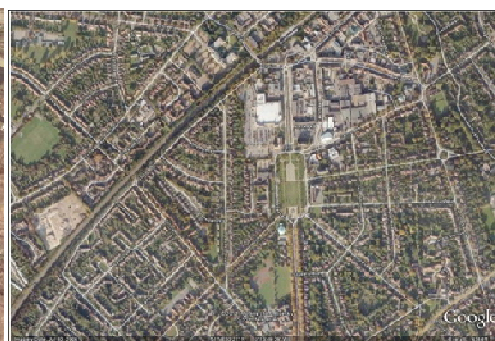


Figure4. Letch worth

OIL STATES_ THE FIRST GARDEN ESTATES OF IRAN

Areas, and similar factors, even if there are differences in terms of geography; the results are more or less the same. Industrial Revolution and the establishment of manufacturing plants in England, in late 19th and early 20th century led to the increasing population of cities and urban turmoil that followed the creation of solutions into satellite cities and garden estates. The discovery of oil extraction and refining activities in the cities of Khuzestan began to enter the workforce, leading to these areas and establishing new settlements in the vicinity of activity centers made it necessary.

Mining and oil refining centers in the south of some Iranian cities with the exception of Ahwaz which was the center of Khuzestan, some of the relatively small organically villages which were designed in their own special unique city plans, were not able to meet the needs of internal and external immigrants entering these small cities.

The city's physical and facility conditions were so poor that they did not meet the minimum needs of their population, let alone were they able to serve and meet the needs of the oil companies' labor workers and employees. Thus it was necessary to create new settlements; the public lands situated around the cities and towns, made it easier to be done.

Investigated and studies of these all happened within a short time span of those for cities in England. The creation of industrial areas in the vicinity of mining and steel-making centers in England was still a new idea. Besides all this, let us not forget those humanitarian ideas and slogans of equality and a pacifist and utopian socialism in that country by social reforms which took the initial steps.

- **Physical similarities:** Homology and similarity of the new cities and towns of England with cities of south of Iran both share common areas which is not limited to only industrial activities and population growth but also, accommodations in the physical similarities can be seen as well in these cities (Mumford, L., 2006).
- **The general form:** Outline of the industrial area of the circle sector of Mahshahr shows the great similarity of design diagrams and the basic idea in the garden estate plans. Radial flow outward from the center of streets that provide access between them. This case is indicated in figure5. In figures6 and 7, the schematic map of industrial Mahshahr zones and picture of Howard's idea of establishing garden estates are shown respectively (Hardy, D., 1998).

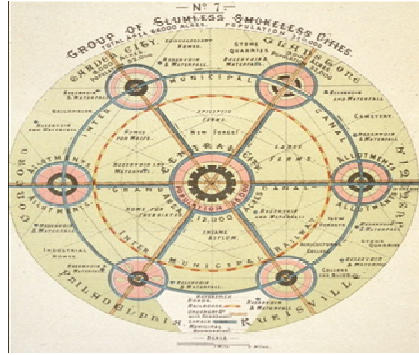


Figure5. Concentric to the solar system

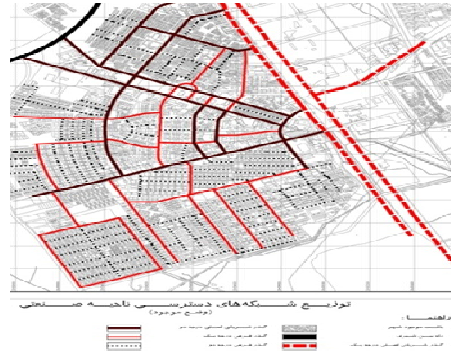


Figure6. Schematic map of industrial zones, Mahshahr

- **Residential areas and how to access them:** Residential areas and houses in oil towns of southern Iran, same as Letch worth and Velvins accessibility to residential areas and its surrounding houses, were adjacent to the interiors and benefited with having safety, therefore were untouchable. Green streets amongst houses created and provided short walking distance between houses. The illustrated above mentioned are given in figures 8, 9, 10 and 11 respectively.
- **Orientation of residential units and open vegetation and green space:** There were plenty of green spaces and natural tranquility of the main slogans of garden estates and it was clearly seen in the oil towns. Despite the

geographical differences between the hot and dry areas of Khuzestan and clammy conditions in England, green spaces and vegetation seriously and frequently was seen in these towns. In the oil towns of southern Iran, unlike traditional houses to the north and south which were facing the sun, monuments have been built different ways and adherence to the traditional orientation have not been put into effect. Stuck in the homes and buildings for the general form of the streets and physical layout of the city and influenced many similarities in the physical design of new towns in different directions for the houses have been predicted.



Figure7. Outline Garden City

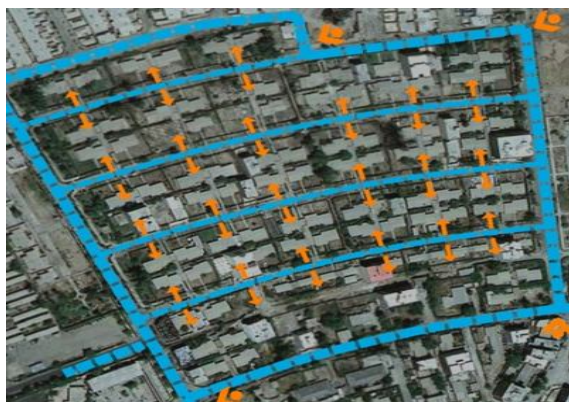


Figure8. Access to residential Mahshahr industrial zones



Figure9. Access to residential areas, Breim, Abadan



Figure10. New site, Ahwaz



Figure11. Covering residential areas by greener

The list of physical similarities and parallelism of garden estate plan with oil towns in southern Iran, which we can add more words but to avoid prolongation of the matter, it is understood that physical similarity is so high that every observer leads thorough investigation to answer the main question. Thus approximation can be almost certain that garden estates and ideas resulting from the model and even the original designers of these settlements. However, due to lack of access to necessary information and design specifications of these projects, we cannot speak about habitat and especially their nationality but with confidence and possibility which can be claimed that the oil towns of southern Iran and the Iranian garden estates which their design inspiration came from cities and those of the original garden estates.

CONCLUSION

Residential complexes built by the Iranian and British oil companies in southern Khuzestan approximation made garden estates proposed nearly a decade after Howard Ebenezer recommended, which they were unaffected by the new city as well as garden estates.

Comparison of different samples with Latch worth's garden estates, and adaptation of residential settlements in the industrial areas of cities by oil companies and under the settlement came the garden estates design, completely in the following areas in tangible and visible form:

- Urban hierarchy with respect to access to parts of urban green space before the expected projected municipal axis equipped with a major service on it, has been an access to the residential parts, making it possible to ease the isolation of the major routes and does not interfere with their essential role. These garden estates have expected to solve traffic tie-ups with service centers in most towns.
- The fitness and coordination in order to avoid the tall building construction leads to lower population and lower density of buildings. Moreover, organic tissue and consisting of concentric circles in the area of distributed and is very sensible.
- Regular, homogenous texture with green house labor and management components of favorable garden estates is another common indicator.

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