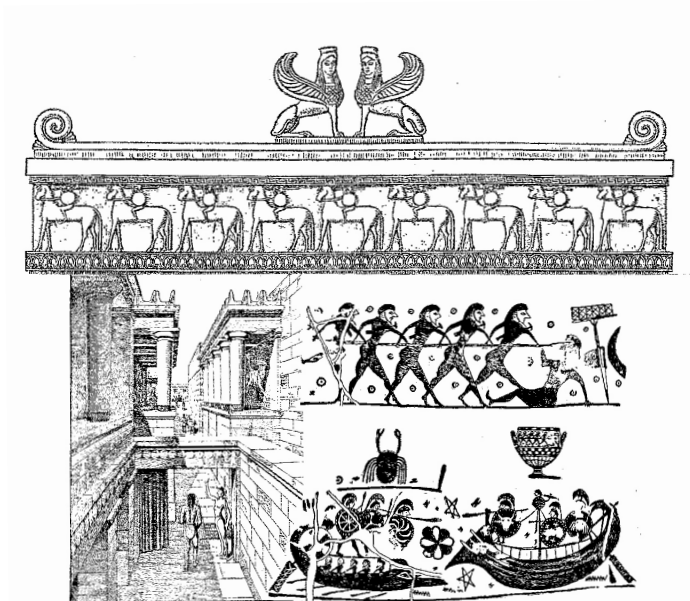


profiting, in reality this planning is characterized by rigidity that is imposed primarily by economic viability. The drastic intervention and destruction of the existing built environment that characterize clearance-construction plans open the door to many questions: what are the physical and social qualities that will be destroyed, what qualities are offered instead, and who will enjoy them? Our objective is to put on the agenda for those neighborhoods' urban renewal, more flexible and diverse planning solutions that also take the social element into account.

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*Absence of the Palestinians from planning in Jerusalem:
the case of Highway 4 in Beit Tsafafa*

Kais Nasser

The formal approach to planning frequently conflicts with the planning texture that has developed over generations and years, as shown in the case of Highway 4 South through Beit Tsafafa. This case illustrates how infrastructure planning, with the objective of realizing "national goals" of the State of Israel applying criteria of efficiency and economic feasibility, can be destructive and damage the lives of residents in whose area it is implemented. The highway in this case is the product of an establishment view that is blind to the existing social and physical fabric in the area. Such mega-planning of one dominant element is in stark contrast to the other elements in the neighborhood that suffer from "under-planning". The conflict arising on this background also displays the problematic in the destruction/construction dichotomy, and the failures of rigid planning that is divorced from the public and leaves no room for the flexibility needed to address the needs of diverse population groups.

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*Clearance-construction: destroying the past and building
the future*

Yael Padan

This article deals with the social aspects of urban renewal, a concept that includes different and varying possibilities for improving the built environment, but which today's planning institutions in Israel almost automatically interpret as the platform for clearance-construction projects. Here we present the considerable complexity that characterizes clearance-construction plans: when paper computations show all parties