Changes in Newark New Jersey

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**Changes in Newark, New Jersey**

# Introduction

Newark is one of the cities that is in a phase of transformation regarding housing and development. In recent years, widespread problems in the city included inadequate housing, poverty, and segregation of dwellings between the poor and the wealthy. For instance, characteristics of downtown involve dilapidated housing while neighboring cities dwell the wealthy people. The mayor has thus come up with various plans that may solve the grievances of the Newark residents. The problems also include poor quality education, different work opportunities and poor health care among the residents.

The current state of Newark has however changed over the years since the twentieth century. The changes are due to various aspects such as international trade, globalization, and settling of immigrants in the city. This study hence depicts the changes that have occurred in the Newark city, its residents and its environment. It also exhibits the changes in cultural beliefs, religion and the perception of the dwelling. Using the concept of the dwelling as stated by Heidegger in his writings. In this course, a deep analysis of Newark occurs in explaining transformations and plans to elevate the place. Thus the deep study of the relationship between the towns with ethos, which is a sense of temporary settlement in the city. Hence, the study elaborates on the changes in the city considering aspects such as mortals, divinities, and skies. The elements include the physical concepts, the connection with the spiritual worlds and the influence of deities on the mortals.

# Annotated Bibliography

**Meagher, S. M. (2008). Philosophy and the City: classic to contemporary writings. SUNY Press.**

The philosopher Heidegger writings on late modern architecture involve the dwelling of mortals in a place. In his writings, he defines the relationship between mortals and their environment and how it influences their perception of life. The writings also relate the existence of mortals with spirituality and how it defines them. Thus, development of a concept of ethos, buildings and dwellings and its influence on humanity. The spiritual environment also changes human existence in a particular city according to the philosophical concept.

**Curvin, R. (2014). Inside Newark: decline, rebellion, and the search for transformation. Rutgers University Press.**

Historically, Newark’s first settlers were people from a universal church and manufacturers. Thus, its development was due to these activities which attracted more inhabitants of the town. According to Curvin, Newark was a city for Italian and Portuguese immigrants who developed active neighborhoods and dwellings. The increase in population in the city was also due to the immigration of black Americans who settled in Newark’s suburbs fleeing from the whites. The continuous settlements, however, led to the occurrence of riots in the place and the prevalent strikes. Other emerging issues in the developing town were corruption among the officials which led to a reduction of residential areas and the failure in Newark’s public schools.

**Scancarelia, D. (2013). New developments lift the city's appeal. Momentum, 5.**

Over the years, Newark perception involved a place full of crime and inadequate housing. However, with the development of infrastructure and skyscrapers in the region has improved the city’s appearance. Also, the development of businesses and hotels has led to the attraction of visitors from around the country. Most visitors would come with security doubts but leave with the satisfaction that the city is an excellent place to spend time with friends and family. The revitalization of the city involve projects to enhance its appearance and economy. For instance, plans are underway to develop more recreational centers and hotels. Businesses such as Panasonic has already rooted its ground in the city resulting in improved economic levels. Thus, Newark has faced transformation over time, and more people are settling in the city because of its environment.

**Martin, H. (1977). Building Dwelling Thinking. *Martin Heidegger, Poetry, Language*.**

The definition of a dwelling involves where a person can associate with and call it home. Buildings exist, but not all the constructions are dwelling places. However, the two have a relation, and according to Heidegger’s writings, mortals dwell in buildings. The mortals are people who believe in eternity as well as the end of life. The mortals also have their environment which includes the ground and the skies which signify the spiritual world. Thus, in his works, Heidegger philosophically defines the dwelling of mortals and their relationship with the fourfold; land, sky, mortals and divinities.

**Burd, J. (2016). Triangle Park gives Newark a path to future. NJBIZ.**

The officials in Newark have come up with strategies to attract more people to their city. The plans include building a bridge in the park that will provide a path to the middle of the city. This strategy will attract pedestrians with interest to view the bridge in the park and hence drawing masses to the city. Thus, people from other neighborhoods will have a chance to see the developed downtown and also provides easy access to Newark. This strategy also opens up the city to new business ideas and investments. Other pending projects in the city include the development of a triangular space that connects with the railway station. The project is a prospect for changing the image of the town.

**Aurenque, D. (2016). Heidegger On Thinking About Ethos and Man’s Dwelling. Architecture Philosophy, 2(1).**

Ethos is the sense of belonging to the world. The essence thus depicts man’s responsibilities to the place they sojourn. Without a temporary stay in a place then there is no dwelling. Hence there is a relation between being a sojourner to dwelling and development of obligations. With a reflection of ethos in daily tasks, a human can develop their world around themselves. Hence, ethos has been existent historically and define how human beings perceive their obligations and presence in the world. To this end, there is a unique connection between the ethos and dwelling. However, for the relationship to exist, human existence must sojourn to the things they handle and with no limitation.

# Ethos

Ethos develops the actual definition of poetic dwelling. It shows the validity of things and the world of mortals (Aurenque, 2016). Ethos describes the existence of good and evils that influence the perception of humans. Poetically, it defines how humans conduct their daily routines and explore the possibility of limitations. Thus, the importance of morality arises and describes the human world. Morality involves the decision between good and evil things. Thus, ethos depicts residence as a form of truth and not the will of safety.

The phenomena further describe dwelling of human beings in the earth because of purpose. It involves the obligation of man towards their dwelling and themselves. However, the personal ethos today has influence from technological advancement over the years (Aurenque, 2016). In a way, technology has led to the lack of awareness of existence. As a result, mortals have lost the knowledge of essence on the ground and allowed technology to control them. It has altered the definition of home and earth. Technology, for instance, has developed the meaning of home, sojourning, and the original dwelling. Thus, to understand the unique ethos, mortals have to understand their essence in rescuing the fourfold which includes saving the earth, coexisting with other mortals, respect to divinities and acknowledging the presence of the skies (Martin, 1977).

Therefore the philosophical theory of ethos has influenced the transformation of Newark, New Jersey. For instance, the aspect of the fourfold has encouraged people to develop the city. Due to this, the city has changed from being a place of poor housing to a modernized town (Scancarelia, 2013). The changes are a result of projects implemented to elevate the town, to protect the environment and to enhance the attraction of other people to the town. The projects have also led to the development of better housing in Newark and modernized buildings for businesses (Scancarelia, 2013).

It is evident that the Newark has transformed due to the obligation by the mortals on the earth. For instance, the mortals in Newark have developed parks and reclaimed land for recreation. The reclaimed land for horticultural use, leisure and holding cultural events. The actions are a strategy to conserve the environment which is the earth according to Heidegger (1977). Also, the city initiatives include the replacement of old and unhealthy trees with new ones. Some areas have planted flowers that have led to the beautification of the city. Mortals have increased relationships with other mortals by sharing of ideas through art and culture. Cultural events in the city have increased interactions between Newark inhabitants and people from the neighboring towns. These events have also changed the perception that Newark is an unsafe place to a city where people desire to live and work in (Scancarelia, 2013). Reclamation of land has also enhanced farming which has promoted full utilization of the ground.

# Building, dwelling, and thinking

The concept of building and dwelling influences human thinking not only on the idea of construction and architectural designs but the first belonging of everything. According to Heidegger (1977), a building can be a dwelling, but not all buildings are a dwelling place for man. For instance, a factory is a building where an employee there can call home. However, they do not stay in the plant. Hence, there is a difference between a building and a dwelling. But the thought of building and dwelling on the fourfold shows that buildings are dwellings. It also depicts that dwellings are the way mortals exist on the ground and that their existence and will to build has led to the construction of buildings and cultivation.

Human beings have the responsibility to make and dwell on the ground (Martin, 1977). Using the fourfold concept, it is evident that dwelling means preservation and cultivation. Thus, mortals have an obligation to conserve the earth. According to this theory, the perception of dwelling involves the relationship between the ground, the sky, mortals and divinities (Meagher, 2008). The theory suggests that the earth is the area below the heavens and the dwelling place of humans. The earth also belongs to the divinities. It is also a source of productivity, a platform for cultivation and nurturing and growth. The sky is the course of the interchange between the night and day, the place where stars are visible and the definition of weather. Divinities are believed messengers of the Creator. They reveal the presence of God and his disappearance. Then the mortals are people who exist on earth. The term explains their dominant characteristic which is death.

Newark is an old city associated with early urbanization, inadequate housing, and urbanization. Despite the high levels of poverty, racism, and lots of other problems, some people call it home. According to Curvin (2014), the historical city had many Italian inhabitants. There were lots of riots based on racial injustices in the town. However, the revitalization of the city began after the World War II. The civilization led to the building of the Newark Museum and cultural center (Curvin, 2014). It also resulted in the development of schools and building of better building. There was also the development of better housing and the construction of a sea and airport. The events led to the elevation of the city’s economy.

Using the concept of building, thinking and dwelling it is evident that the mortals in Newark have made tremendous changes in their dwelling place. For instance, most dwelling locations in the city were poor housing because the mortals could not afford to construct safe houses. The population was mostly made up of poor immigrants who had no job. However, with the end of the World War II, the inhabitants saw the need to improve their living conditions. The obligation to preserve their dwelling places led to the development of brick houses in the city. The city’s image improved and the constant riots ended. The end of riots shows the decision by humans to live peaceful with fellow mortals irrespective of their racial backgrounds. Other changes during that period included changes in buildings. For instance, there was the construction of the Newark Museum and the cultural center that held events in the city.

Mortals also have a connection to the divinities in this town. According to Curvin (2014), the town is a religious town. It began due to the congregation of people who came from the same church. The belief in a common God influenced the settlement in one area. Also, their dwelling in Newark led to the passage of the religion to their next generations. Hence there is evidence of existing spirituality in the area. The mortals who settled in new Newark had their values and beliefs. For instance, their values came from the Bible, and their faith involved the existence of a superior God who was the creator of heaven and earth. The main reason why they settled in Newark was due to the belief of divinities and the spirituality. They wanted to build a church and a community of mortals on their dwelling which is Newark. The people’s thinking did not involve the building of large estates, a big city or businesses (Curvin, 2014).

Over the years, the people of Newark have further developed the place they call home. The developments of the city draw its reasons from Heidegger’s concept of building, dwelling and thinking as well. For instance, the mortals in the area dwell on the ground for purposes rather than poverty, racism and poor housing. To elevate this suffering, they altered their thinking of cultivation and building to things that can improve their mortality. Hence, this connection to the place led to the development of ideas to increase its productivity regarding the availability of food in the region and sources of income. The gods who influenced the life of the mortals were respected as people valued religion. However, the existence of divinities in the spiritual world did not limit their dreams and purpose to cultivate the ground.

The realization of the purpose led to the construction of up to thirteen story buildings for business. The buildings include the Panasonic company premise which among the largest and famous companies in Newark (Scancarelia, 2013). Also, to improve housing in the place, local authorities have transformed empty lots to residential apartments for the population. With time, all lots will be dwelling places for the mortals which are an improvement from the early brick houses. Hence, the lots are made homes by many families, and that’s where the essence will develop. The obligation of the mortals includes protecting and preserving the earth and the skies. Due to this commitment, the residents of Newark have encouraged the establishment of LEED houses which enhance in the conservation of the environment. Construction of buildings that are LEED certified ensures the reduction of carbon emissions hence conserving the sky and hence the earth. The city’s initiative on this type of construction further ensures that the dwellers can afford the buildings.

Other tremendous transformations include the development of courtyards and large hotels in the city to enhance its image. The modernized buildings and designs have improved the appeal of the town from a place regarded as a dangerous place to dwell to the desired city. The city has also transformed to include movie theaters to promote entertainment and attract more mortals to the city. The building of the city also includes the development of businesses that have led to the improvement of the economic level in the city. For instance, the start of new ventures resulted in the creation of employment in the region hence a decrease in the poverty levels. A comparison of the original city and the current one shows a more cultivated place on earth.

Newark is also a city with vegetables that promote the healthy existence of mortals. Due to their mortality nature, human beings need to consume foods that are not harmful to their health. Hence, the utilization of earth in Newark for farming has led to the availability of productivity of healthy foods. The availability of vegetables direct from the ground has encouraged people to consume more of these products. Further transformations include the reclamation of rivers to form beautiful waterfronts in the city. The reclamation is among the mortals’ way of using natural resources to make earth more attractive.

# Plan

Plans for improving the lives of people in Newark and its image include the construction of a pedestrian bridge in the park. The project is a prospect to more attraction of people from other neighborhoods to Newark. This project will also help in restoring the tarnished reputation of the city. Other plans to conserve the ground includes the development of parking lots that will give space to greener fields. The triangular park footbridge will also facilitate the accessibility of the train station (Burd, 2016). Other plans are also underway, and with the current Mayor in office, the residents expect significant transformation in the city.

# Conclusion

From this discussion, the existence of the concept of building, dwelling and thinking to influence the behavior of the humans upon understanding the fourfold. About this idea, it is evident that the construction of buildings and architectural designs relates to the dwelling. The current modernization affects the perception of building and dwelling and in most cases, draws mortals from having a deeper understanding of the truths about existence. However, if one relates the fourfold, they can derive the purpose of mortality and existence on earth. According to Heidegger (1977), once a mortal understands the oneness of the fourfold they discover their obligations.

Therefore, the obligations of the people in Newark of preserving the earth and protecting the skies led them to develop activities that will fulfill this purpose. For instance, development of a green city, utilization of land for farming and construction of modern houses. Their actions further influenced the dwellings and hence more people associate with Newark and call the place home. This sense of belonging shows that because of the fulfillment of the concept of ethos, building, dwelling and thinking mortal have established a connection with the phenomenal dimensions which includes, the earth, skies, and divinities.

# References

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