



Housing Films

Wednesday 18th June 2008

6.30pm Swanston Room

This program is a new idea for the conference, aimed at bringing attention to the housing research role played by documentary filmmakers.

Urban housing problems

Living with the city

Film Australia 1975 Colour (Ektachrome) 26 minutes

Australia's filmic contribution to the UN Habitat conference, held in Canada in 1976.

For overseas audiences, the film includes a potted history of the development of Australian cities, as well as looking at contemporary urban problems in Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney.

It also shows what the federal (Whitlam) and state governments were doing to help preserve inner-city housing and the communities that lived there. International reviews praised this film for its "warts and all" content as well as quality filmmaking for the time.

Researched, scripted, directed and presented by David Muir

Urban Development

Planning for all of Melbourne: the Victorian Government Response to the Melbourne 2030 Audit

Department of Planning and Community Development 2008 Colour video 6 minutes

An exposition of the Victorian government's far-sighted urban planning.

(Courtesy of DPCD)

Housing and the underprivileged

A place to live

Realist Film Unit, 1948-51 Black & white 12 minutes

Made for the Brotherhood of St Lawrence as a call to action - part of Father Tucker's "war on slums" - by a group of left-wing filmmakers, one of whom, Ken Coldicutt, provides part of the narration now added to this silent film.

Some idea of the impact the film made when taken on fundraising tours can be gained from contemporary newspaper reports read by actor John Flaus.

(Courtesy of John Hughes, who included extracts from *A Place to Live* in his 98 minute program, *The Archive Project*. This film and others from the Realist Film Unit are included in a 3-DVD set, *The Archive Box*, available from jheworks@websurf.net.au)

International housing efforts

Building the community project - transitional housing for the street kids of Hoi An

RMIT and Architects Without Frontiers 2008 Colour video 6 mins

An audio-visual record of a present day goodwill endeavour utilising young Australian skills.

(Courtesy of RMIT)