

The classic urbanisation development model of the Ancoat in Manchester

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Abstract: In this paper, the author wants to provide a systematic review of the classical model of urban development in the Ancoats, using the political economy of the city as the basis for a theoretical perspective. The paper will critically analyze the history of development of the Ancoats and the current situation of the region in the light of Marx and Engels' urban political economy. The analysis of the history of development will focus on the characteristics and patterns of urbanization and industrialization in the Ancoats, while the current situation of the region will be considered in terms of the benefits and limitations of urban regeneration and gentrification.

Keywords: Urbanisation, industrialisation, de-industrialisation, regeneration of urbanisation

1. Introduction

In this paper, the author wants to provide a systematic review of the classical model of urban development in the Ancoats, using the political economy of the city as the basis for a theoretical perspective. The paper will critically analyze the history of development of the Ancoats and the current situation of the region in the light of Marx and Engels' urban political economy. The analysis of the history of development will focus on the characteristics and patterns of urbanization and industrialization in the Ancoats, while the current situation of the region will be considered in terms of the benefits and limitations of urban regeneration and gentrification.

The Ancoats area, located to the north of central Manchester, is an area with a long history and a rich population hierarchy. Geographically and topographically, the Manchester city circle is situated in a basin area, with the basins to the east and north being formed by upland areas. At the same time, the whole area is surrounded by wetlands, including a number of rivers headed by Kedlock, which provided transport, resources and geospatial possibilities for the area's population and industrial development. first industrial suburb". Its development is clearly marked by a history of urbanization and industrialization, and it has played an important part in the global urbanization and industrialization of the world and, more importantly, its rapid development into a thriving industrial area in a short period of time. Despite the problems of de-industrialisation that began in the 1930s, and even the sharp decline in population that occurred after the Second World War, the Ancoats still has an undeniably important place in the world. The Ancoats is now one of Manchester's more upmarket areas, with a population of over 15,000 today. It has also been named "one of the 13th coolest neighbourhoods in the world."^[1] Rose et.al.(2015) point out that the Ancoats has even become a top choice for tourists from Europe and many other countries^[10]. This paper provides a critique of the history of the development of the Ancoats, but it is also representative because of the distinctive process of development of the region, which is characterized by a post-industrial or post-Fordist city.

2. The rise and fall of industrialisation in Ancoat

The Ancoats is a classic part of Manchester's history as an industrial city, created by industry and providing a place for industrial development, whether for workers, politicians or the city. Originally, the area was just a village in the town of Manchester. However, the fact that people came together for both productive and residential purposes meant that people were no longer content with the original farming model of social production, but rather a pattern of bartering and exchange emerged. This is largely a testimony to the fact that with the birth of commodities and market relations, new social relations of production arose and developed in order to adapt to the new needs, hence the beginning of

urbanization, which was inextricably linked to the progress of industrialization and the attractiveness of the population of the city. In the 1785, there was a cotton factory in the Ancoats, symbolizing the beginning of the industrial development of the region. Subsequently, different types of industrial industry began to develop in the area, such as machine manufacturers. The northern part of the area was the most prosperous, not only with real estate on both sides of the street, but even in other surrounding vacant lots that began to be established. At this time the population of the entire Ancoats area was 11,039, which is one seventh of the entire population of Manchester. ^[6] A relief road now connects the city centre to the Ancoats area. Although its historical origins can be traced back to the late 18th century, it was in the early 19th century that the stage was really developed. In this period, the pattern of urbanization brought about by industrial agglomeration can be seen clearly: people's living communities were built around factories, and all urban services and amenities were centred on industrial production and development. Ancoats was then a mixed area, with workers' housing and factories built on the northern and southern sides of the area respectively; and at its At the height of its development, the Ancoats not only enjoyed the rise of cotton mills and textiles, but also added industries such as glassworks. The development of factory manufacturing not only developed the economy but also attracted workers from the surrounding areas and even further afield, so that one of the obvious changes in the Ancoats area at the time was its population, which tripled from its original size, to 56,000 by 1861^[9]. As industrialization continued to develop, intensification and division of labour were the only options for increasing the efficiency of production - the factory model of production under Keynesian Fordism. As a country at the forefront of the world's economic development, Britain had the ability to buy the raw materials needed for industry and supply them to factories in a timely manner, which largely contributed to the rapid development of the economy, trade and other aspects, and also had a positive impact on the organization of the city. This is what made Manchester such a famous industrial city and, as a result, the Ancoats became one of the 'world's first industrial suburbs'. As industrialization increased and landowners began to recognize the increasing value of their property, some of the aristocracy in the Ancoats began to build family-owned factories, centralising production by employing workers and building large textile mills and warehouses as a means of achieving 'industrial scale' production. industrial scale" production. Ancoats gradually became an urban village, with the nobility dividing their land into different land units and attracting residents to buy them at a price.

However, with the rapid rise of industrial cities and the intensification of traditional urbanization and industrialization, associated urban environmental and health problems have emerged. In both factory production and urban settlements, the new district structure consisted of a narrow street and crowded dwellings, which largely created high population densities and low quality sanitary conditions, resulting in a decline in the health of the inhabitants, many of whom suffered from diseases such as rickets. But the living conditions of the middle and upper classes were quite different compared to the dwellings of the working class areas. Costa et.al.(2017) note that with the rise of industrialization, the sanitation and health problems of Ancoats came to the fore. The rising population has led to a surge in housing pressure^[4]. At the same time in the ongoing industrialization, a large number of factories were built, creating a tight grid pattern. A survey carried out in 1831 showed that 56.1% of the streets in the Ancoats were not cleaned and were therefore used as a dumping ground for workers and residents. The quality of the housing stock in the area also varies, as the houses were built in different years. Some of them were built in the late 18th century and some in the mid-19th century, so the quality of the rooms varies from one to another. Nevell (2014) states that in order to improve the quality of housing in the Ancoats, the government made a series of unjustified housing rehabilitation and demolition^[7]. Although the slums were demolished in the late 18th century and at the same time the government built a building to house the workers in the neighbourhood and improve the quality of the housing, the rents were unacceptable to the workers and therefore they were still unable to move in. At the same time, the inhabitants found it difficult to live in the area with its large number of factories, not only because there was only one main road in the whole of Ancoats, but also because there were not enough public spaces to provide services. Even though in the past there were pharmacies and a few churches that could be used by the inhabitants, in the course of the development of the area these buildings were greatly reduced in use and even demolished. With the decline of industrial development, the population that once flocked to the area has also moved out, leaving the Ancoats with an incredibly thin sense of community identity. With competition from other countries, the British economy stagnated and even began to experience structural collapse. The impact of this was most evident in Manchester, the most industrialized city, where factories and warehouses represented the rapid growth of new industries with cheap labour in developing countries. Even towards the end of the 19th century, as global competition for industrialization intensified, industrial development in this area gradually stagnated and was joined by a massive demolition programme, with communities largely destroyed and left unused, schools

closed and factories abandoned. The closure of the 'Daily Express' building represents the end of a prosperous era for the Ancoats.

Engels (1971 cited in Thorns 2002) said that the main reason for such a situation in the rapidly developing spaces of industrial cities was the exploitation of workers^{[1][5]}. In his view, the wealth of the middle and upper classes stemmed from the demand for workers' surplus value, an excess of the capitalist production situation that resulted in tens of thousands of workers being left with poor living conditions and even the emergence of slums. Blakeley and Evans (2009) argue that it is the steady decline of the Ancoats, with falling house prices, retail closures and poor living conditions, that has led to an increase in crime and drug addiction^[2]. rising crime rates, an increase in drug addiction and a perverse lack of community culture. Overall, the canal has played an irreplaceable role. A large number of talented people used the canal locally to bring the steam-powered factory model of production into the mainstream. In subsequent construction, the government added railways, and this canal, in turn, connected to the east and west coastlines of England, hooking up vertically and horizontally and greatly contributing to the region's industrial boom. Better economic standards and jobs attracted a larger population, and advanced transport made higher-level, larger-scale population movements possible. Yet the quality of life of the people at the bottom is forever in a grey and invisible zone due to the crisis of risk that inevitably results from the deepening of capitalism in a liberal framework and the breakdown of relations of production due to increased class tensions. Massey (1984 cited in Thorns 2002) comments that as the capitalist system continues to change, there is a shift in the orientation of production^[11]. So groups of workers became cheap labour, which led to the de-industrialisation of cities in the early years of capitalist industrial expansion. The essential purpose of de-industrialisation, on the other hand, is to better equip cities for sustainable quality development, rather than simply reducing the things associated with industrial production. In other words, de-industrialisation is about the structural transformation of the economy, with a shift from a secondary sector at its core to a tertiary service sector. Thus, in the shift from established industrialisation to de-industrialisation, there are also shifts in other relations, and we must mention the trend towards counter-urbanisation, the rise of neoliberalism and the renaissance of consumer market-oriented cities. Industrialisation brought to Manchester a huge scale of population build-up and a huge amount of economic production, providing all the necessary elements for urbanisation. However, industrial production under capitalism brought about a confrontation between the bourgeoisie and the proletariat, a widening gap between rich and poor, and the end of urban development. People's need for better housing, better living and a better city, so economic development needs to be transformed, the city needs to be reimagined and the culture needs to be reshaped. In other words, Manchester needs to be revived and regenerated to improve its competitiveness.

3. Regeneration of the city

To this day, for a number of policy reasons, new politicians have emerged, such as the Northwest Territories Development (NRDA) related scheme^[3], which has largely contributed to the regeneration of the Ancoats. In addition to this, the Ancoats is still publicly recognized as the world's first industrial estate. So a large number of historic buildings and restoration projects were implemented in the early stages of the renovation. As mentioned above, the canal is surrounded by factories that flourished during the industrial era, so in today's redevelopment, these areas will also be the focus of renovation while also targeting leisure, consumption and family. Many functional public areas and buildings are being built around the living and consumption standards of the inhabitants, and they are becoming cultural areas with a distinctive character. But the process of regeneration is still not immune to some problems. For example, should all the existing buildings be demolished or should they be selectively demolished in order to reconfigure the city's architecture? Wainwright (2012) states that during the redevelopment process, although some projects were created to restore health services in the Ancoats, governments did not completely solve the problem of housing the workers, and only half of the residents could even be accommodated to move back to the area^[12]. The reason for this is that the redevelopment programme still has some flaws, unlike the earlier slum clearance programme, which was intended to improve the previously overcrowded living conditions by moving the former residents to the new town. In order to change the negative image of the neighbourhood and enhance the vision of the local residents, a new strategic framework for the Manchester needs the right mix of urban spaces. (New East Manchester, 2001)^[8], however, there are inevitable pains in the process of change, such as: a poor job market, low spending levels of low income households and poor health. So in the redevelopment of Ancoats, working class housing, healthcare and education are the first conditions to be considered. Meanwhile, The Ancoats are a major source of disruption to the city, not only because of

the dramatic increase in commuting costs for workers, but also because of the privatisation of transport. As a result of this situation, the population of the Ancoats has declined considerably, housing prices have fallen rapidly and this has been accompanied by high unemployment, with more than one tenth of the population having no source of income, and even if there are residents who are able to hold paid jobs, they are still unable to earn good wages and have precarious forms of employment. In general, the inhabitants of the Ancoats have a much higher mortality rate, are unable to obtain a good job, and have a much higher infant and child mortality and morbidity rate than in other regions, which largely explains the different forms of exploitation they experience.

In addition to this, the author undertook a site visit to the Ancoats today to observe and record the current situation in the area. Unlike the past, the redevelopment of the Ancoats includes a thriving commercial area, cafes, bars and restaurants(see figure1), as well as the development of a housing market, and it is worth noting that one of the restaurants, rated by a rating agency. It is worth noting that one of the restaurants, which has been awarded one star by a rating agency, is also the only one with a star rating, which is a great proof that the redevelopment of the area is beginning to bear fruit. Smith(2002) notes that the initiative to rebuild the city for the middle class is not just about providing them with housing. Middle-classisation has developed as an inevitable tool and has opened up a situation of urban construction that is fully influenced by class. These new urban landscapes are presented in the form of houses, restaurants, cafes, bars, and various infrastructures. Another cluster of urban landscapes that the author discovered a cluster of Chinese industries in the northern part of Ancoats. There is a China Town in the centre of Manchester, but the Chinese industries found in Ancoats are more extensive than those in China Town, with Chinese supermarkets, Chinese law firms, seafood supermarkets and other Chinese industries(see figure2 and 3), which is a great proof that the redevelopment of the area has been effective. In the process of Manchester's regeneration and renewal, the Ancoats have been less successful in building culture than areas such as the northern quarter, and this has led to a less secure and organically coordinated political and economic construction of the area around a cultural brand. In the context of the above-mentioned site visit, I found that the area was somewhat deserted, both in terms of residents and service shops, and that a number of street-level shops were even closed. But from another point of view, it shows that there is still room for manoeuvre in the regeneration of the area, and what is more important is how to avoid, as far as possible, destroying the established community network and consumer groups in the subsequent development phase, balancing the capture of economic benefits with the stability of the residents' lives, and trying to minimise the negative effects of the limitations of the regeneration development.



Figure 1: Seafood Market



Figure 2: Chinese Supermarket



Figure 3:Lawyer Company

4. Conclusion

In this article, the author has sought to examine the history of the development of the Ancoats region, identifying the industrial transformation and development that it has undergone in the course of its development, as well as the series of changes that it has undergone in order to rebuild itself in the face of de-urbanisation. In this article, the author examines the context of Manchester's development as an industrial city. However, the prosperity of the area was not without its problems, which led to its rapid decline. However, the revival of the Ancoats as a former industrial area was necessary in the course of time, not only because there are historical sites in the area that can be explored by future generations, but also because the process of de-urbanisation made revival an inevitable choice. With the emergence of new players, the penetration of power can also have some negative effects. However, even if there are some problems in the process of regeneration that have affected the pace of development, it is undeniable that the development of the Ancoats today is positive and, in contrast to the neighbouring area of North Point, which does not have an artistic and romantic feel, the atmosphere created for the reader during the fieldwork is one of tranquillity but elegance, with brick-red The brick-red buildings are a reminder of the prosperous industrial estate of the past, and the clean and tidy streets are a showcase for the upmarket residential area of the present, making the development of the Ancoats unique in the author's opinion.

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