

TF 200 R
New School for Social
Research
Jacobs

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Dear Gil,

I was naturally very pleased when I saw the comments on the attached sheet which Jason Epstein sent me --even though I know I'm not as good as that. I thought you might be pleased to see them too.

Yesterday, I ran into my first published review, quite a feeling. It was in the November Atlantic, and was a nice one. The November Harper's has a group of letters about their excerpt.

With very best regards,

Jane J.

JANE JACOBS

P.S. As an antidote to the praise, I am getting a spate of furiously angry and denunciatory letters from planners and housers who seem to have me tabbed as an irresponsible, if not vicious, demagogue!

Herewith three comments on Jane Jacobs' THE DEATH AND LIFE OF GREAT
AMERICAN CITIES:

NOV 14 1961

" THE DEATH AND LIFE OF GREAT AMERICAN CITIES is the most refreshing, provocative, stimulating and exciting study of this greatest of our problems of living which I have seen. It fairly crackles with bright honesty and commonsense. I hope that it may be read not just by the planners, the politicians, the architects and the builders. I hope it can be read by all those Americans who have increasingly become distressed, frightened and confused by the horrors which are perpetuated about them in the holy name of progress and improvement."

Harrison Salisbury, THE NEW YORK TIMES

"A beautifully imaginative, insistently intelligent, persuasively human book - in short, a piece of The Truth. What the rest of us have merely observed, Mrs. Jacobs has understood. The book is so entertaining - it has some of the most successfully nasty polemical writing I've ever seen - that lots of people will want to read it. And everyone who reads it will feel Mrs. Jacobs' outrage at the stupidities and cruelties we perpetrate in the name of city planning. A big blow in a great cause."

Martin Mayer, author of THE SCHOOLS

"This is one of the most remarkable books ever written about the city. Planners may dispute the conclusions - many could hardly do otherwise - but they're going to have to think about them. For this is a primary work. The research apparatus is not pretentious - it is the eye and the heart - but it has given us a magnificent study of what gives life and spirit to the city. It is an antithesis we very much need, for the elements Mrs. Jacobs perceives are precisely the elements we seem bent on eliminating in conventional redevelopment."

William H. Whyte, author of
THE ORGANIZATION MAN