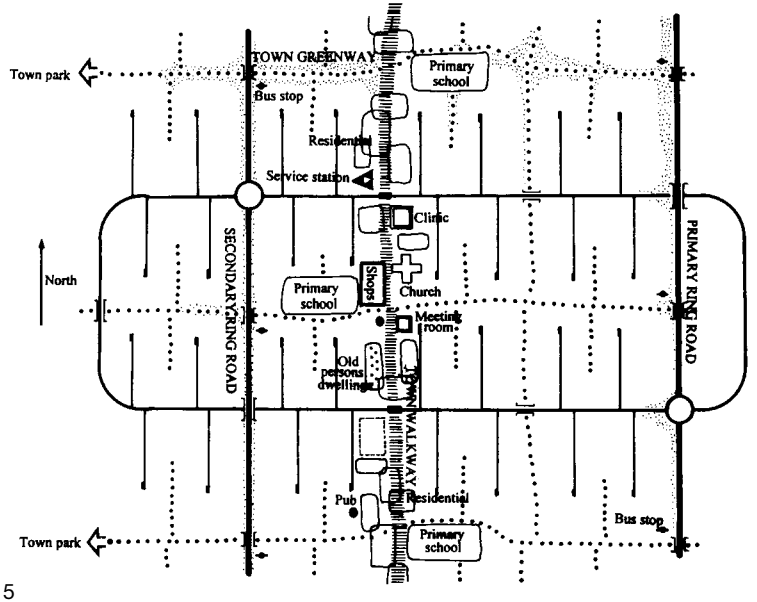

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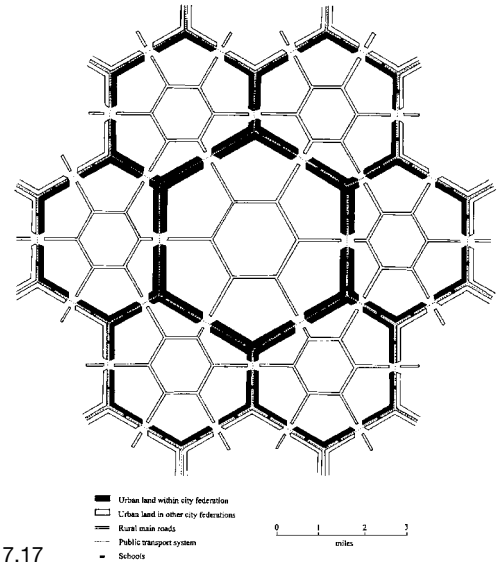

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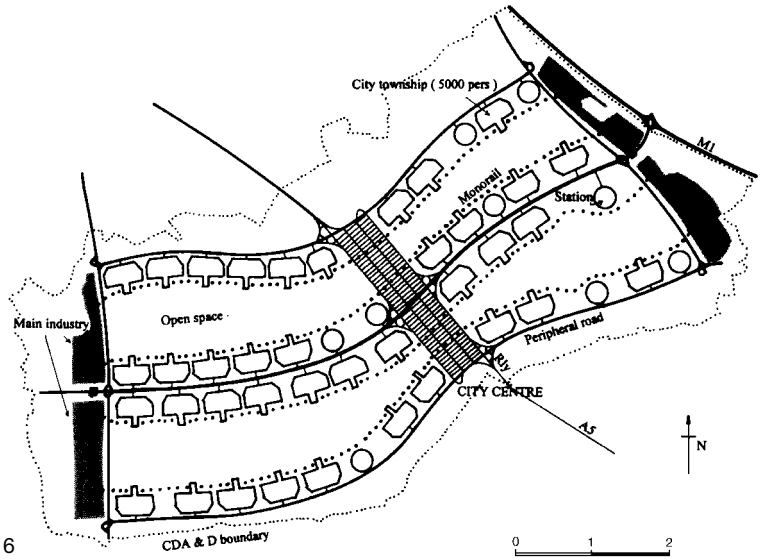

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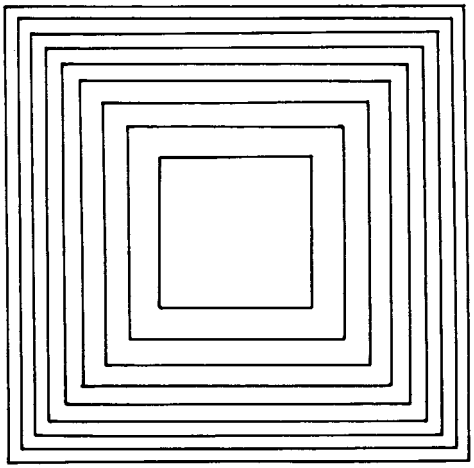


7.18

Figure 7.15 Telford (Houghton-Evans, 1975)
Figure 7.16 Monorail city (Houghton-Evans, 1975)
Figure 7.17 Linear city (March, 1974)
Figure 7.18 Fresnel's square

would still be possible to drive through country areas without seeing a town (Figure 7.17).

The starting point for March (1974) was 'to think line not blob'. The theory relied for its intellectual rigour upon the geometry of Fresnel's square (Figure 7.18). Each

successive 'annular ring' of Fresnel's square diminishes in width from the middle but is exactly the same area as the central square, the 'blob'. If the rings are regarded as possible ways of arranging buildings or areas of urban development, then each poses different problems of internal arrangement, servicing, lighting, heating and the use of external space. The greatest difference is between the central space, a pavilion of development, and the outer space, a courtyard-type development (Figures 7.19 and 7.20). For example, imagine these two areas, the central square, the 'blob', and the area at the perimeter, the 'line', being developed with four-storey buildings. The outer 'line' of development would present fewer problems in terms of achieving reasonable levels of natural lighting and ventilation than the inner 'blob' of development. The pavilion-type development on the inner square would require light wells of some description: in short, it would require either buildings of greater height or an extension of the ground area to achieve the same building volume as the outermost line of development (Figures 7.21 and 7.22).

March (1974) points to the history of urban development to support his theory for the linear city. Development in the past has often been built along the route of a thoroughfare for reasons of economy (see Figure 7.3). March in his theory did not, however, take into account the equally natural development of central places along transport routes. Such central places act as magnets attracting development to specific locations in ways Christaller discovered in Germany (Christaller, 1933, 1966). This attraction of the central place distorts the pure form of linear development, creating real estate of high value. The result is the sort

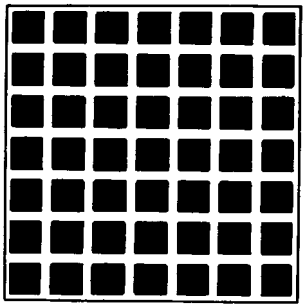


Figure 7.19 Pavilion development (March, 1974)

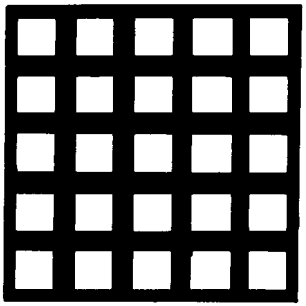


Figure 7.20 Courtyard development (March, 1974)

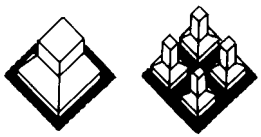
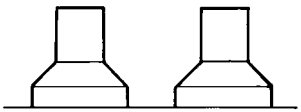


Figure 7.21 Pavilion development (March, 1974)



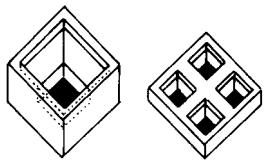


Figure 7.22 Courtyard development (March, 1974)