

ALEXANDER WALKER

Date of Birth: 25 July 1967

Place of Birth: Mexico City

Nationality: British

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

Oct 1986 - June 1989 BA (MA) in Social Anthropology (Arch. and Anth. Tripos)
St Catharine's College, University of Cambridge.

Oct 1991 - Oct 1992 Masters (MSc) in Engineering for Rural Development
Silsoe College, Cranfield Institute of Technology

Sept 1995 – Jan 2000 PhD. in Planning Studies
Development Planning Unit, University College, London
Title of research: *House Form and Social Identity: The Formal Consolidation of Irregular Housing in Mexico City*

August 2000 – August 2001 Post-Doctoral Research
Barcelona School of Architecture, UPC
Title of Research: *Social Change and Conflict in the New Territories of the Barcelona Metropolitan Area*

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- College Scholarship from St. Catharine's College, Cambridge, 1990
- Bursary from Silsoe College, Cranfield Institute of Technology, 1991
- Scholarship for study in Mexico from the Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores, Mexico. February – December 1997
- ESRC Grant for Doctoral Research, 1996 - 2000
- Beques Batista i Roca grant for post-doctoral research in Barcelona, August 2000 to August 2001

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- *Historical Influences on the Use of Cement in the Construction Culture of Mexico City*. Journal of Construction History, 2000
- *The Culture of Construction in the Informal Settlements of Mexico City*. DPU Working Paper Number 114, 2001
- *Decentralisation and Infrastructure Keysheet* Prepared for the Overseas Development Institute for use by DfID. In Press
- *Barcelona*. Case Study for the UN-Habitat Global Report on Cities 2003, UN-Habitat/Earthscan, 2003. Full report on cd in publication

WORK EXPERIENCE

UN-HABITAT

May 2002 – February 2003

Freelance research and editing work for the UN-HABITAT Global Report on Cities, 2003. I was responsible for writing the Barcelona case study, and for editing the other 36 city case studies.

Conference Organiser

Feb 2000 – May 2000

Barcelona School of Architecture, **Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya**

Member of the committee charged with organising a series of conferences and exhibitions to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Barcelona School of Architecture.

Housing Course Assistant

Oct 1995 - Dec 1996

Development Planning Unit, **University College London**

Academic assistant to Ronaldo Ramirez in the preparation and presentation of an academic course in housing and development issues for a group of 12 students from the Korean National Housing Corporation.

Development Officer

Nov 1993 - June 1995

La Gaitana Housing Co-operative, **London**

Development officer for a housing co-operative for Latin Americans resident in London.

Project Co-ordinator

Oct 1992 - July 1993

SAPHI, Nebaj, **Guatemala**

Project Co-ordinator for an NGO dealing with health issues and potable water supply installation in Nebaj, Guatemala.

Languages:

English: Native

Spanish: Fluent (written & spoken)

Catalan: Level B