

## Photo Essay

### The Junkyard of Futures Past

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Futures not achieved are only branches of the past: dead branches.

[Italo Calvino, *Invisible Cities*, 1974:29]

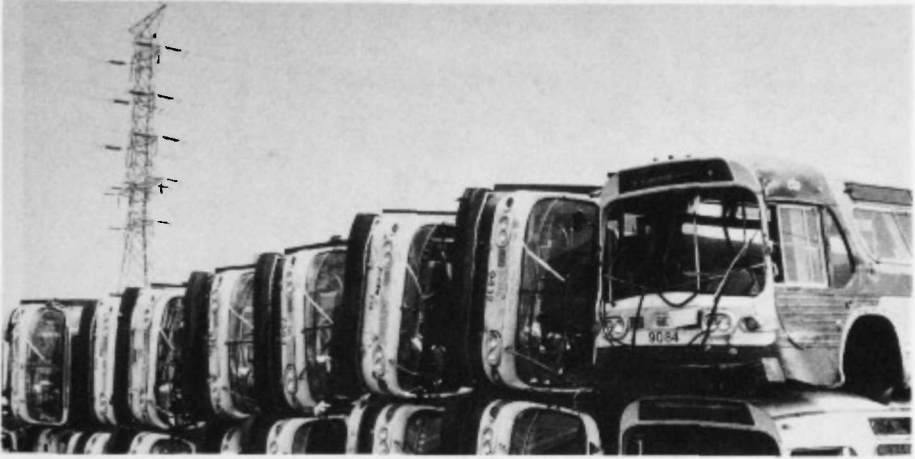
Nostalgic memories are evoked to compensate for anxieties about what is possible. . . . We are overloaded with fragmented pieces of unarticulated information, the debris of the past, knowledge as a scrapyards.

[Henri Lefebvre, *Introduction to Modernity*, 1995:225]



a city which, only when it shits, is not miserly, calculating, greedy. . . . Perhaps the whole world . . . is covered by craters of rubbish, each surrounding a metropolis in constant eruption.

[Italo Calvino, *Invisible Cities*, 1974:113, 115]



visible crowds of objects and invisible crowds of needs.

[Henri Lefebvre, *The Production of Space*, 1991:394]



the charring of burned lives that forms a scab on the city . . . this is what you would find at the end of your journey.

[Italo Calvino, *Invisible Cities*, 1974:99]



the world we call modern was born with the shattering of the modern world, carrying within its heart the principle of its destruction and self-destruction. [Henri Lefebvre, *Introduction to Modernity*, 1995:105]



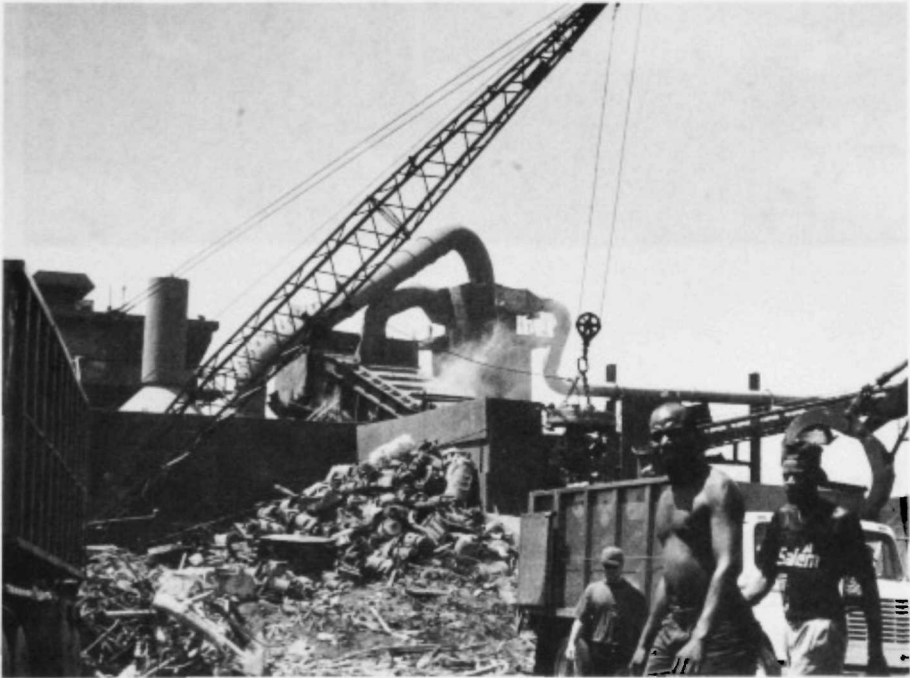


or else the order of the gods is reflected exactly in the city of monsters.

[Italo Calvino, *Invisible Cities*, 1974:145]

And at last the full importance of the concept of uneven development is becoming apparent.

[Henri Lefebvre, *Introduction to Modernity*, 1995:210]





I'm crazy about this City. . . . Here comes the new. Look out. There goes the sad stuff. The bad stuff. The things-nobody-could-help stuff. The way everybody was then and there. Forget that. History is over, you all, and everything's ahead at last.

[Toni Morrison, *Jazz*, 1992:7]

Laughter is more profound than irony: laughter unleashes forces beyond the scope of reason.

[Henri Lefebvre, *Introduction to Modernity*, 1995:246]

**Note**

1. All the photographs in this essay were taken by Nick De Genova in Chicago, circa 1995.

**References Cited**

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