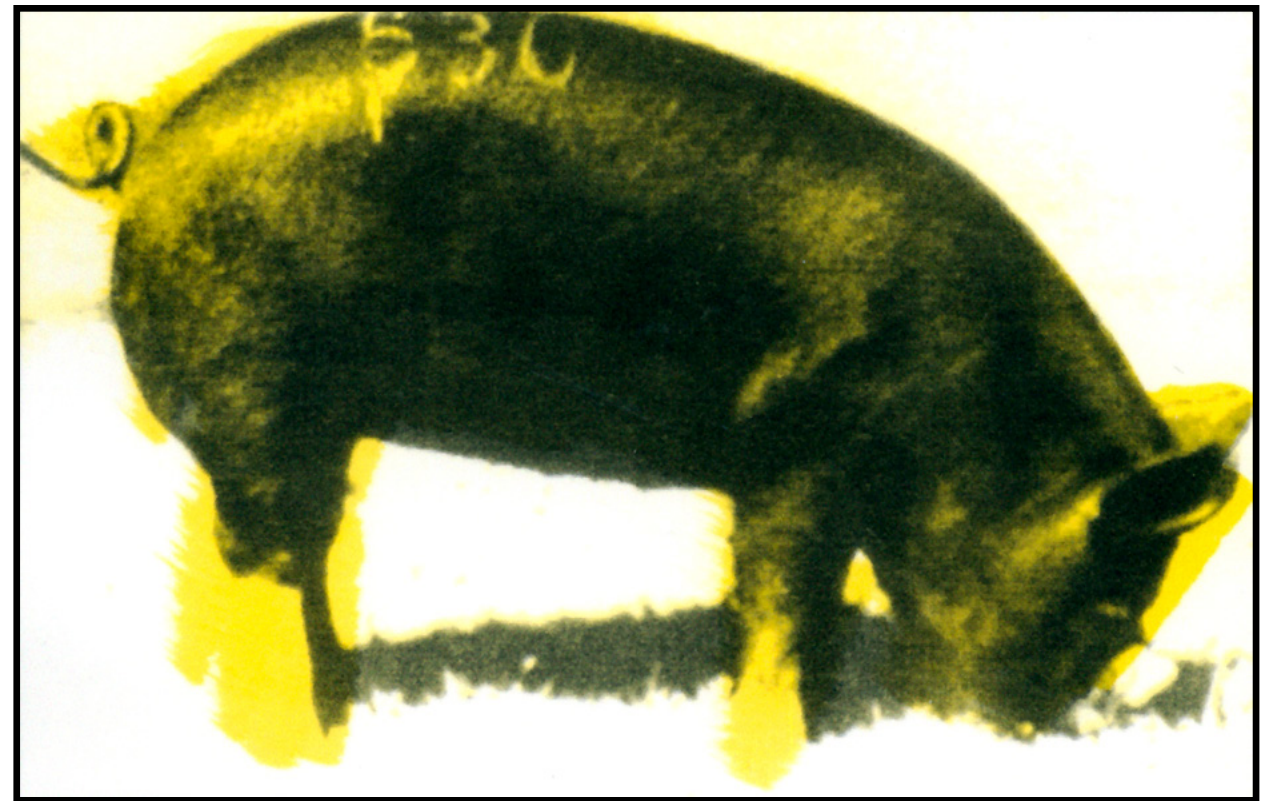


“If we could suddenly see this arranged order as it will be seen in its full functioning, it is not to be doubted that many of the Civilized would be struck dead by the violence of their ecstasy.”

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PIG CITY MODEL FARM



Rob Kovitz

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A Handbook on Architecture and Agriculture

Treyf Books

Treyf 25th Anniversary edition 2014
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To Mom and Dad

Preface

I want to profess the implausibility of making a single sustained and systematic design argument. The unitary building project is not the reason for architecture, but its affect. It is an affect which is becoming less possible, less appropriate, and less defensible. It is a kind of utopia.

from Submission No. 1 (rejected)

Forget all that other stuff. What I meant to say was, I want to do a farm for my thesis. It will be sort of a utopia.

from Submission No. 2 (accepted)

Author's Note

This book contains large chunks of quotation, both to give a flavour of the material being discussed, and to save time and effort on the part of the author. It should be understood that to keep the book as brief as possible the author does not fully explore the contradictions or assumptions that any given quotation may contain.

Stewart Home, Utopian Currents: A History Of Anti-Art Movements Since 1945

I mean to speak to you by (roundabout) bypaths: sometimes offended and enraged, often withdrawn and hard to pin down, occasionally brimful of lies, until everything becomes plausible. Certain things I should like to pass over in circumspect silence. I anticipate a part of the part, whereas another part will turn up only later and partially. And, so, if my sentence twists, turns, and only gradually tapers to a point, don't fidget and don't bite your nails. Hardly anything, believe me, is more depressing than going straight to the goal.

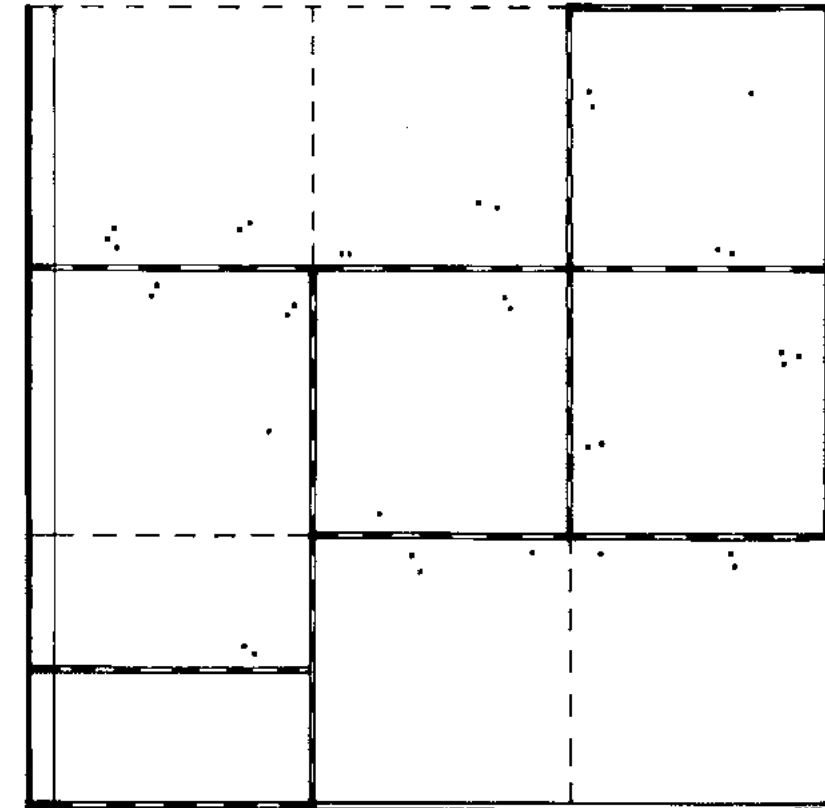
Günter Grass, From The Diary Of A Snail

In the following pages I give you the record of an actual experience; there is not a guess, a dream, or a touch of fiction from the first sentence to the last—it is fact, plain unvarnished fact.

Joel M. Foster (founder), The Million Egg Farm

The road goes for two miles before we are there. At its end is the farm. I'll cheat a little and give you some clues. It's not anywhere with a name and a tax-rate. It's not on any map or chart. It's a myth and I'm fooling you, or maybe just fooling myself.

Raymond Mungo, Total Loss Farm



Topographic map, showing section pattern, roads, and buildings. Scale 1:50,000

FOURIER

First, we must have the correct information, or we must know where to find it, and second, in order to achieve this, we must know what we are looking for, how to know it when we find it, and finally how to apply it systematically to the problem at hand.

Seaton Baxter, Intensive Pig Production

The Ideal Market-Type Hog—Scale of Points

General Appearance—42 points:

1. Weight—according to age
2. Form—moderately long, deep, fairly wide; top line slightly arched; underline and sides straight; trim middle, balanced, stylish; legs squarely placed
3. Quality—smooth in form and fleshing; free from wrinkles or flabbiness; head and ear medium fine; bone medium size; hair not course, bristly, or curly
4. Condition—degree of fatness, indicated by a moderately thick, firm covering of flesh over all parts of the body, not excessively fat
5. Dressing per cent (carcass yield)—indicated largely by condition and trimness of middle

Head and Neck—5 points:

6. Snout and Face—medium length, wide, clean cut, not course
7. Eyes—wide apart, open, not small
8. Ears—medium size, fine texture, wide apart
9. Jowl—smooth, neat and trim, not flabby
10. Neck—medium length, smooth, blending neatly with the shoulders and head

Forequarters—9 points:

11. Shoulders—smooth, blending smoothly into the sides, not wider than back and hams, compact on top, well fleshed
12. Chest—wide, deep, full
13. Front Legs—medium length, straight, bone medium size, pasterns strong

Body—28 points:

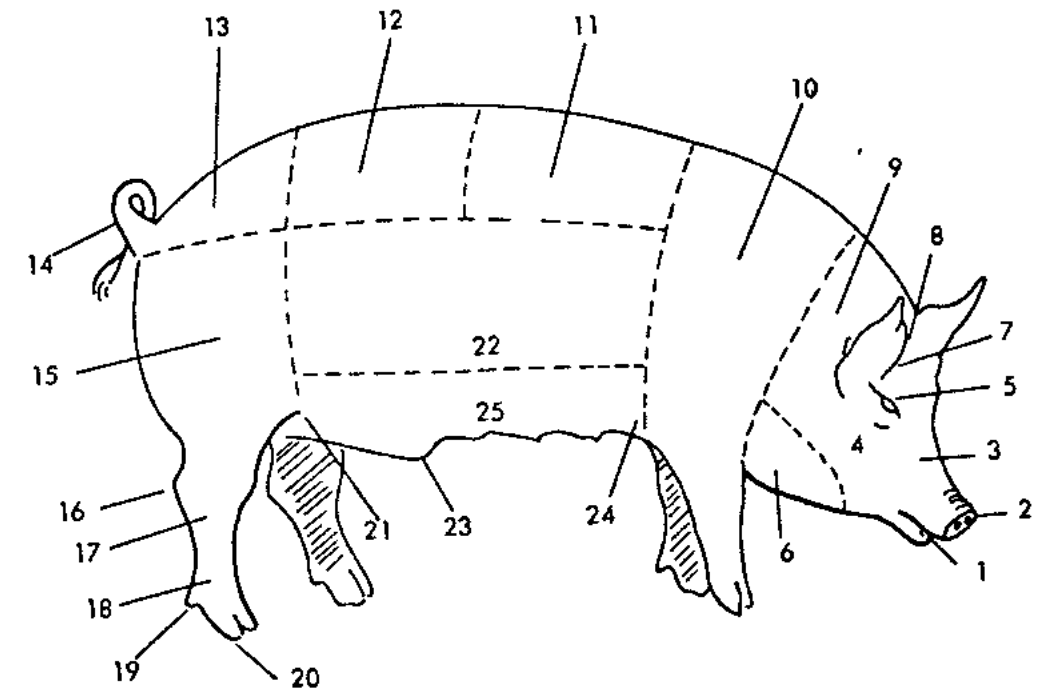
14. Back and Loin—wide, slightly arched, rather flat from side to side, covered with thick, smooth, firm flesh
15. Sides—moderately long, deep, smooth; free from wrinkles; flanks well let down
16. Belly—straight, trim, free from flabbiness

Hindquarters—16 points:

17. Rump—long, wide, slightly arched but not drooping, rather flat from side to side
18. Hams—wide, deep, full, heavy, firm, shank short
19. Hind Legs—medium length, straight, bone medium size, pasterns strong

Total—100 points

Arthur Anderson, Introductory Animal Husbandry



External Parts of a Barrow

- | | | |
|--------------|-------------|----------------|
| 1. Mouth | 11. Back | 21. Rear flank |
| 2. Nostril | 12. Loin | 22. Side |
| 3. Snout | 13. Rump | 23. Sheath |
| 4. Jaw | 14. Tail | 24. Fore flank |
| 5. Eye | 15. Ham | 25. Bell |
| 6. Jowl | 16. Hock | |
| 7. Forehead | 17. Shank | |
| 8. Poll | 18. Ankle | |
| 9. Neck | 19. Dewclaw | |
| 10. Shoulder | 20. Toes | |

Farm Properties

General Plan and Design 30
Design suitability and selection of pattern.
Location of plant masses (windbreaks, tree groupings, herbaceous perennial beds, foundation plantings and kitchen garden).

Appearance and Condition of Property 45
Upkeep of buildings, fences, gates and driveway.
Condition of paving, walls, pools, or other hard material.
Health of turf, plant material including herbaceous perennials, evergreens and deciduous trees and shrubs, vegetable and herb garden.

Use of Landscape Features 25
Treatment of defined areas, fences, hedges, privacy screening.
Choice of building materials for walls, walks, patios, screening and pools and quality of workmanship.



Occurrence of Agricultural Types Determined by Cluster Analysis of Canadian Agricultural Areas (Census Divisions)

The IGU data matrix was used as input to a cluster analysis. On the basis of the error factors associated with each successive grouping of CDs, a series of types was identified. With each successive clustering, the number of types was reduced, and the information consequently more generalized. In this case four significant clusters made up of 17, 11, 8 and 6 types, respectively, were identified (Table 10.3). The final cluster of six types most closely approximated the derivation arrived at through the model types approach, but in view of the range of conditions not covered by the latter, it was logical to seek a larger number of types to cover the range of Canadian conditions.

The search for alternatives could be approached in one of two ways, either by concentrating on areas not identified as belonging to model types, or by the use of hierarchical grouping as a basis for an overall set of types meeting the criteria set down in the scheme. The latter approach was adopted, not least because the fit of the model types was unclear in so many of the cases, and because even at the cluster level of 17 types there were obvious discrepancies.

Examination of the type variation scores revealed that successive groupings down to and including number 8 maintain a situation whereby internal group variation is consistently less than the suggested 10 variable class deviations. This suggests therefore that each of the 17, 11, and 8 member types (but not the 6 member type) represents a valid typology. Since the object was to find the least number of well-defined model types, the 8 cluster result was selected (Table 10.4).

The eight types embrace all 253 census divisions within the range of deviation specified and may thus be compared with the model types derivation. This suggests a set of global agricultural types for Canada in which the three model types achieving some representation (i.e. Mxg, Mxc and Mcc) are supplemented by types 1, 3, 4, 5, 8 and possibly 6, from the types listed.

Michael J. Troughton, Canadian Agriculture

1. Small scale intensive farming, vegetables and poultry predominant
1 1 5 1 1 5 3 2 – 2 1 5 4 4 – 3 3 4 4 5 5 4 – 1 3 1 5 5 1
2. Extensive, medium scale, low intensity crop and livestock combination
1 1 5 1 1 3 2 – 1 1 5 3 1 4 3 – 3 3 4 4 5 5 3 – 1 1 1 3 3 1
3. Extensive, medium-scale, moderate intensity, livestock other than cattle
1 1 5 1 1 3 3 – 1 1 5 3 1 4 3 – 3 3 5 5 5 5 3 – 1 2 1 3 3 1
4. Extensive, crop and livestock, cattle (milk and beef) and hog emphasis
1 1 5 1 1 3 3 – 1 1 5 4 1 4 3 – 4 4 5 5 5 5 4 – 1 2 1 4 4 1
5. Specialized, medium intensive cash cropping
1 1 5 1 2 3 3 – 2 1 5 4 1 4 2 – 4 4 5 5 5 5 4 – 1 1 1 2 2 1
6. Extensive, mixed grain and livestock farming
1 1 5 1 1 4 3 – 1 1 5 2 1 4 2 – 2 2 5 5 5 5 3 – 1 1 2 2 3 1
7. Specialized, very extensive grain (food and feed) farming
1 1 5 1 1 4 3 – 1 1 5 1 1 3 1 – 2 2 5 5 5 5 2 – 1 2 3 1 1 1
8. Extensive livestock grazing (not true ranching)
1 1 5 1 1 4 3 – 1 1 5 2 3 4 2 – 1 1 5 5 5 5 2 – 1 3 1 3 3 1

Table 10.4

Wire Fences

The overall height of a barbed wire fence is less important than the spacing of wires in such a way that livestock will seldom get their heads through.

Elwood M. Juergenson, Handbook of Livestock Equipment

Many attempts have been made to imitate the natural thorn-armed plants, by affixing barbs to wire, and over 30 different patterns have been devised. We have some 25 specimens, the exact size and form of which are shown in the engravings below. Nearly all the fence wires here described, are now made of steel, and most are supplied either painted (or japanned) or galvanized (coated with zinc).

The engravings are so exact that our readers can almost decide and make their own selection. We confess to being yet in the condition of the learner—but an earnest, investigating one, in behalf of the public. We started with a prejudice against any of the severer forms of barbs; yet some manufacturers say the demand is for the longest barbs, especially at the far West. We intend to learn more and say more on this, especially when we hear further from our readers experienced in their use.



No. 1 is probably the first attempt at "barbing;" said to have been made by an Iowa blacksmith some 20 years ago. It is a common horseshoe nail bent around the main wire, and held in position by binding it with a small wire as shown.



No. 2, the "Cleveland Barbed Wire." The points stand out at nearly right angles, which could not well be shown in the engraving perspective. The same barb can be applied to double or triple wires. The names of the manufacturers unknown to us.

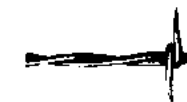
No. 3. Engraved from a specimen; distinctive name unknown. These barbs also stand out at right angles, that is, in four directions. We are not aware that this form is now being manufactured.



No. 4, the "Kelly Steel Barb Wire," with two-point barb stamped or cut from sheet metal, and pierced to string upon one main wire and be held in place by the other. This variety is manufactured by the "Thorn Wire Hedge Co.," we believe.



No. 5, "Roberts Barbed Wire," engraved from specimen; if now manufactured, the makers are as yet unknown to us. The two-pointed barb is a cast double-pointed piece of metal, with a deep groove around its middle, where it is grasped and held somewhat firmly by the twisted main wires.



No. 6, the "Crandall's Barbed Wire," is simple, and this barb may probably be put upon a single wire, like No. 2, but when there are only two barbs, they need be set closer together than for the four barbs. Made by the Chicago Galvanizing Co.

No. 7, The "Sterling Barbed Wire," has a single pointed wire bent firmly around one of the main wires, and locked over itself; it presents the two barbs, pointing in the two opposite directions. This wire is manufactured by the North-western Barb Wire Co.



No. 8, the "Bronson Barbed Wire." The two barbs are formed by cutting one of the running wires, and bending and locking the ends. We do not know the manufacturers.



No. 9, The "Glidden Steel Barbed Fencing." The barb has a close double turn around one of the main wires. To reduce the objections to dangerous points, this variety has for some time past been made with the barbs materially shortened. Manufactured by the Washburn & Moen Mfg. Co., as per advertisement elsewhere.



No. 10, the "Three-pointed Stone City Steel Barbed Wire," has a 3-pointed piece locked between the two main wires. Made by the Stone City Barb Wire Fence Co.

No. 11, "The Steel Barbed Cable Fence," (Fentress & Scutt's patents) is similar to No. 10, but with 4 barbs on one solid piece. Made by the Illinois Fence Co. Two other barbs, somewhat similar to these, are made by H. B. Scutt & Co.



No. 12, "Spiral Twist, 4-pointed, Steel-barbed Cable Fence Wire" (Watkin's patent). The barbs are on one solid piece of metal, which is bent to conform to the twist of the main wires, and is thus held fast. Made by Watkins & Ashley.



No. 13, the "Quadrated Barbed Fence," is explained by the engraving. It has well-fastened barbs certainly. Made, we believe, by Pittsburgh Hinge Co.

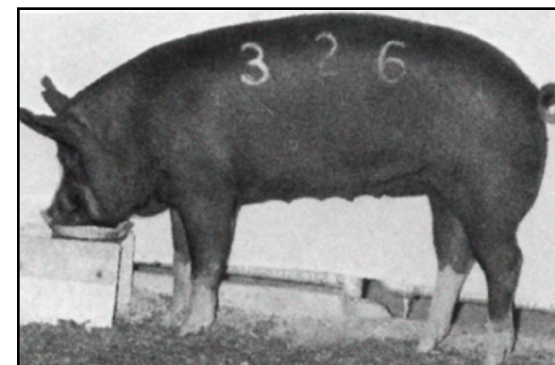
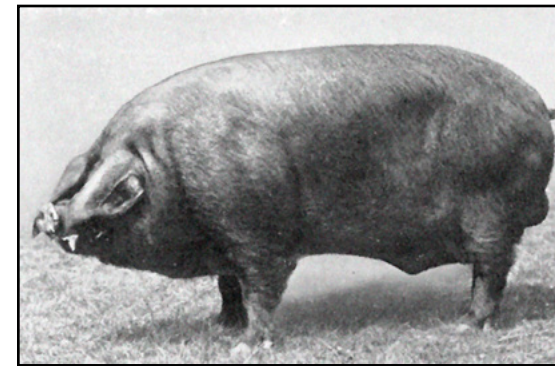
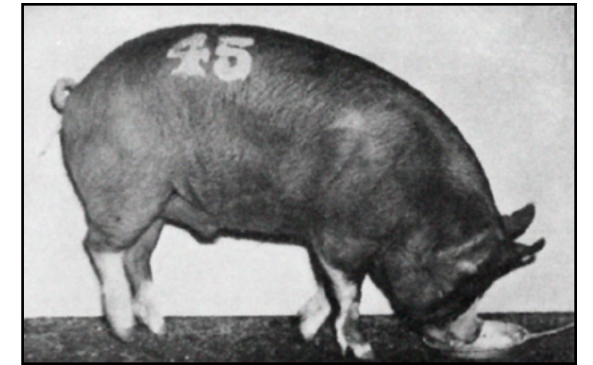
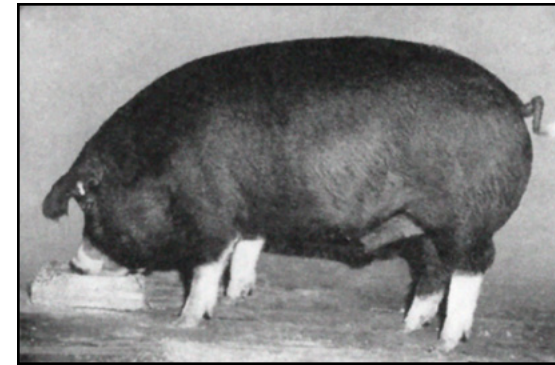


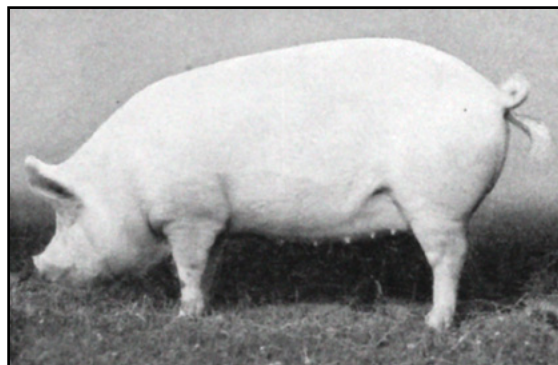
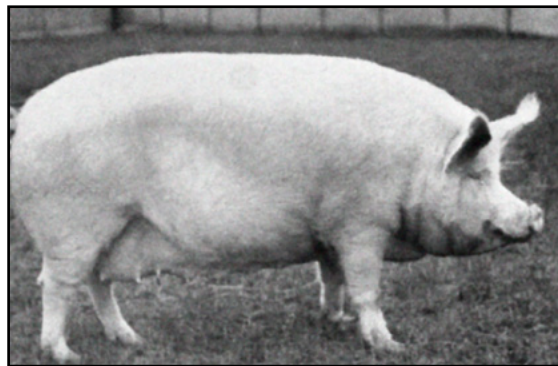
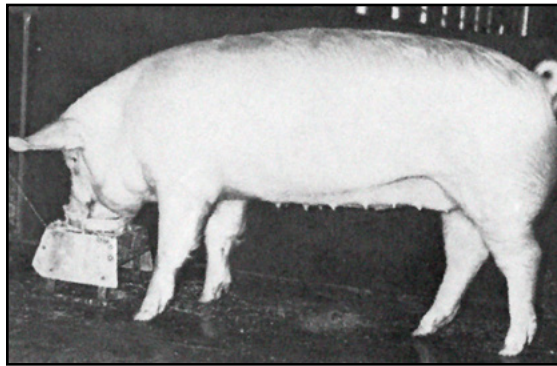
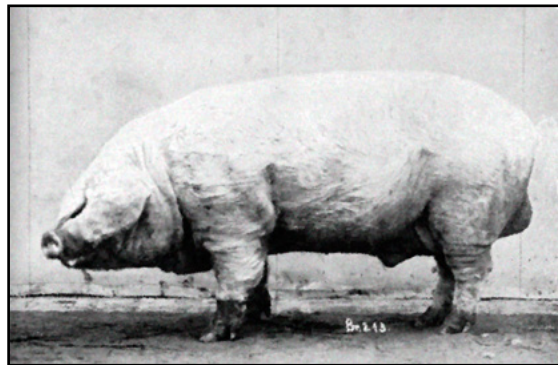
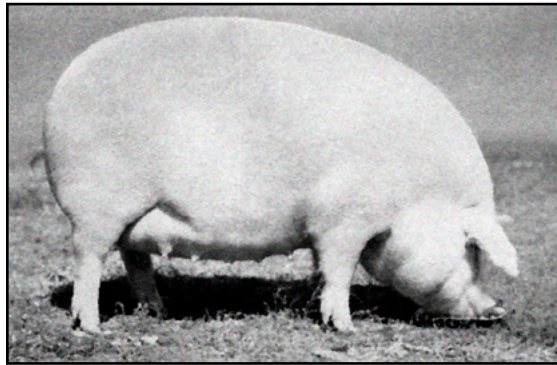
No. 14, The "Iowa 4-pointed Barbed Steel Wire," (Burnell's patent). The form and structure are plainly shown in the engraving. The wire of the barbs passes twice around and between the main wires, but so loosely as to yield a little. It is made by the Iowa Barb Steel Wire Co., both in Iowa and New York.

Form

Type, as used in swine, is mainly a matter of form; for example, a pig may be described as being long, tall, narrow, and shallow or, at the other extreme, short, low set, wide, and deep. The first terms describe the rangy or extremely big type; the second describe the small type. As the intermediate is the desired type, we stress moderation of the specifications. Therefore, when finished, the ideal market barrow is moderately long, deep, and wide. A slightly arched top line, straight side lines and bottom lines, with resultant trimness of middle, and balance are included in the description of form. Stylishness and well-set legs are also desirable.

Arthur Anderson, Introductory Animal Husbandry





Fourier (the utopian method, or notes on logical vertigo)

1.

The only difference between humans and animals is that humans can count.

Gertrude Stein, Everybody's Autobiography

Brecht says of Kafka's precision that it is the precision of an imprecise man, a dreamer.

Walter Benjamin, Conversations with Brecht

He was a madman.

Charles Gide, Introduction to Selected Writings of Charles Fourier

2.

In the world one can count on up to six human races: the white, the yellow, the brown, the black, the red, and pampa.

White Race: of such race are all inhabitants of white skin, such as those of Baltic, Nordic, European, American, etc. countries.

Yellow Race: of such race are all inhabitants of yellow skin, such as Chinese, Japanese, Mongols, Hindus in their majority, etc.

Brown Race: of such race are all inhabitants of naturally brown skin, brown-skinned Russians, brown-skinned Turks, brown-skinned Arabs, Gypsies, etc.

Black Race: of such race are all inhabitants of black skin, such as inhabitants of West Africa in their great majority, etc.

Red Race: of such race are all inhabitants of red skin, such as a large part of Ethiopians of dark reddish skin; a large part of Hindus of dark reddish skin; a large part of Egyptians of dark reddish skin; etc.

Pampa Race: of such race are all inhabitants of varied or pampa-colored skin, such as all Indians of the three Americas.

[In organizing it, in distributing it, I shall overwhelm it.]

Now then, of the seven mentioned chambers of the palace of the aforesaid Society a first chamber would be occupied by Delegates from countries of the white race, and its President would be of the same color; a second chamber would be occupied by Delegates from countries of the yellow race, and its President would be of the same color; a third...

[And so on for all the races, or maybe one could skip over the enumeration, but that would be cheating, and so]

... a third chamber would be occupied by Delegates from countries of the brown race, and its President would be of the same color; a fourth chamber would be occupied by Delegates from countries of the black race, and its President would be of the same color; a fifth chamber would be occupied by Delegates from countries of the red race, and its President would be of the same color; a sixth chamber would be occupied by Delegates from countries of the pampa race, and its President would be of the same color; and one—the—seventh chamber would be occupied by the General Staff of all the aforementioned Society of Nations.

[The Fourierist syntagm simultaneously produces a sonorous pleasure and a logical vertigo.]

[This is very precisely systematics, but not, as we shall see, the system.]

3.

Regularity requires that before descending to minor details I make known, first of all, the General Destinies of the Planet.

[Fourier wants to decipher the world in order to remake it.]

In Rome in the time of Varro there were 278 contradictory opinions concerning true happiness.

[Everything is a pretext for numbering. The Fourierist number is not rounded off, and in fact this is what gives it its insanity (a minor sociological problem: why does our society consider a decimal number “normal” and an intradecimal number “irrational”? At what point does normality occur?).]

[All mundanity is dissociative: it is a matter of isolating oneself in order to retreat and to trace out the area within which the rules of the game can function.]

I am not being arbitrary in indicating the foot of the King of Paris as a natural measurement; it has this property because it is equal to the 32nd part of the water level in suction pumps.

[Fourier experiences a kind of prophylactic obligation for dispassion (poorly observed, by the way: he imagines his “calculations” are boring and that reassures him, whereas they are delightful).]

On inspection of this Table, the first thing which strikes us is the narrowness of the views of the philosophers, who would persuade us that Civilization is the ultimate limit of Human Destiny, whereas it is only the fifth of the 32 possible forms of society, and is one of the most unhappy of the 10 periods of misfortune, which are the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th in the phase of Infancy, and the 31st, 30th, 29th, 28th, and 27th in the phase of Caducity.

[This paradox: detail (literally: minutia) magnifies, like joy. It is a fury of expansion, of possession, and, in a word, of orgasm, by number, by classification: scarcely does an object appear than Fourier taxonomizes (we are tempted to say: sodomizes) it.]

If we could suddenly see this arranged order as it will be seen in its full functioning, it is not to be doubted that many of the Civilized would be struck dead by the violence of their ecstasy.

[Mania is never captured save through the pleasure it procures for its partners.]

4.

[Now the contrary: the discourse produces an interstice through which the subject leaks away.]

Care should be taken in reading this work, not to fall into an error very common, namely that of expecting in a Prospectus the details which belong to a Treatise. Critics complain that they cannot understand how the proposed changes are to be effected. If I had wished to explain this, I should have given a Treatise and not a Prospectus. It was not advisable to present my whole Theory at once.

[... and indeed the sight of those enormous volumes, without table of contents, without consecutive paging, that intentional absence of all plan (what he proudly termed “dispersed order,” but which it would be better to term “incoherent order”) ...]

[At its limit, the book is composed of nothing but jumps, full of holes, whose words are constantly missing, eaten by mice, and which therefore have the dimensions of an infinite cryptogram whose key will be given later. This reminds us of reading in the Middle Ages: the ancient text (subject of medieval reading) broken up and its fragments then capable of being diversely combined.]

By means of this arrangement I trust to have adapted the Prospectus to the tastes of all classes of readers, each of whom may perhaps be ranged in one of the three categories—the Inquisitive, the Lovers of Pleasure, or the Critics.

[The message of his book is the announcement of a forthcoming message: wait a little longer, I will tell you the essential very soon.]

5.

The properties of Friendship are calculated according to the properties of the Circle; the properties of Love are calculated according to the properties of the Ellipse; the properties of Paternity are calculated according to the properties of the Parabola; the properties of Ambition are calculated according to the properties of the Hyperbola; and the collective properties of these four passions are calculated according to the properties of the Cycloid.

[Naturally, Fourier was aware of the “ridiculousness” of his demonstrative objects (of his rhetoric). He was well aware that Civilization is devoted to the hierarchical division of languages, objects, and usages as strongly as it is to those of class.]

[Of course, for anyone with the contrary mania, tolerant neither of number nor of classification nor of system (numerous in Civilization, jealous of “spontaneity,” of “life,” of “imagination,” etc.), the Fourierist Harmony would be hell itself.]

Gallant Policy for the levying of Agricultural Armies, etc.

[Yet he assumed the incongruity of his demonstrations with a certain martyred air.]

6.

[It emerges that Fourierist method is the end of the tablecloth: pull the slightest futile incident, and all the rest of the world will follow.]

When you play in Neverland by day with the chairs and table-cloth it is not in the least alarming, but in the two minutes before you go to sleep it becomes very nearly real. That is why there are night-lights.

J. M. Barrie, Peter Pan

7.

[The system is a body of doctrine within which the elements (principles, facts, consequences) develop logically. The system being a closed (monosemic) one, it is always theological, dogmatic; it is nourished by illusions: an illusion of transparency (the language employed to express it is purportedly purely instrumental) and an illusion of reality (the goal of the system is to be applied); it is a strictly paranoid insanity whose path of transmission is insistence, repetition, catechism, orthodoxy.]

(10) National Corporation of Ranches (all rural establishments for the Major Breeding of animals and all employees in general of said establishments). (Major Breeding or the breeding of corpulent animals: oxen, horses, ostriches, elephants, camels, giraffes, whales, etc.)

(11) National Corporation of Farms (all truck farms or large small farms, and all employees in general of said establishments). (Cultivations of every respective type of plant, except vegetables and fruit trees.)

(12) National Corporation of Animal Breeding Houses (all establishments for the Minor Breeding of animals, and all employees in general of said establishments). (Minor Breeding or the breeding of noncorpulent animals: pigs, sheep, goats, dogs, tigers, lions, cats, hares, hens, ducks, wasps, fish, butterflies, mice, insects, microbes, etc.)

[Why exempt vegetables and fruit trees? Why did the word wasp have something diabolical about it?]

(31) National Corporation of the Learned in Suitable Sciences and Their Houses of Science (all houses or communal places for the learned in suitable sciences and all of the aforementioned learned men). (Learned men in suitable sciences: physicians, homeopaths, healers (all surgeons), midwives, technicians, mechanics (all types of technicians), engineers of the second grade or architects of every branch (all executors of plans already drawn beforehand, such as would be an engineer of the second grade), classifiers in general, astronomers, astrologers, spiritualists, full doctors in every branch of the law or laws (all experts), classifiers of generic species, accountants, translators, primary school teachers (all composers), trackers of murderers, pathfinders or guides, plant grafters, barbers, etc.)

[Systematics, on the other hand, is the play of the system. Its mode of appearance, its constituency, is not “development” but pulverization, dissemination; it is a discourse without “object” (it only speaks of a thing obliquely, by approaching it indirectly) and without “subject” (the author does not allow himself to be involved in the imaginary subject, for he “performs” his enunciatory role in such a manner that we cannot decide whether it is serious or parody). It is a vast madness which does not end.]

8.

Roland Barthes, Sade/Fourier/Loyola

Julio Cortazar, Hopscotch

Charles Fourier, The Social Destiny of Man, or, Theory of The Four Movements

Charles Gide (ed.), Selected Writings of Charles Fourier