



*But what were the biggest architectural events of the last one hundred years? When the IRA blew up the City of London? Or when the Israeli State bulldozed the homes of Palestinians? When Bolshevik militants detonated churches? Or when African Americans burnt L.A? When the fires swept Dresden? Or was it the shredding of the twin towers? The precision bombing of ancient Mesopotamia? Perhaps it was when Chernobyl exploded and poisoned the earth? Or when fifty years before that the Nazis scorched the Ukraine on the eastern front? When Plymouth, Coventry, Nagasaki, Saigon and all those other places were carpet bombed? When buddha was erased from the cliffs and a country was dragged back into the stone age? The beached Brazilian slave fort flickering in the palmed sun, the piled stone sculptures of the graveyard of the Prague ghetto, the obedient slave, the loyal serf, the free wage worker. With a squint in the eye all can be remembered as pretty pictures. And all these moments of tragedy became postcards of our time. Something for the flaneur to send home.*

