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Ehrlichman
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ordered the CIA to assassinate the strong man, Diem. Ehrlichman later got wind of the CIA into supplying files on his personal life. In fact, Nixon was demoted to size because of "any" as part of an eastward loathed. The then CIA men, retaliated by planting it in the White House for Hunt to be caught. Democratic national headmen blackmailed Nixon on the original Diem report, and Ehrlichman, as ambassador, followed the trail. The source, you will find, was caused Watergate. The message of John Ehrlichman is a case for the Watergate novel, it is "commences are professionally leave just enough of a polemic. But as genuine plausible character of Ehrlichman is a dud. Ehrlichman coyly omits to say he was convicted Watergate for eight years in 1974. This was recently upheld by the Supreme Court. According to press reports, Ehrlichman "novel" to help pay off Nixon. The book's internal evidence, along with setting some against his actions, Ehrlichman uses fiction to defend Nixon: "He got caught. Ehrlichman's effective partly because Kennedy certainly got the Vietnamese politics. Ehrlichman ordered federal troops whom he hated. Ehrlichman's FDR was not above Ehrlichman then. What John Ehrlichman create a Washington Court Road known as Tolmers Village. The early Victorian Tolmers Square has been constantly in the thick of this battle. The forces involved are all too familiar in our big cities in recent times: private property speculators versus community pressure groups, with local councils helplessly and often hopelessly enmeshed, unable to reconcile the financial pressures behind "redevelopment" with the wishes of local inhabitants. Tolmers Square and the twelve acre site around it has become a symbol of the ills of many of Britain's inner city areas. Nick Wates has written an illustrated history of Tolmers Village with the inside knowledge of a resident and the qualification of a degree in architecture, planning, building and environmental studies.

wider political processes at work in society. So long as the rationale behind urban redevelopment is financial profit at the expense of people's living space in a satisfactory environment there will be more battles like the one for Tolmers Square. Readers of this otherwise excellent book might have been encouraged if the author had said more about some potential solutions.

opportunity to examine contemporary

AXON HOUSE STUDIE

In a sense, *The Company* is a little more psychologically complex than it seems. Ehrlichman has split his alter ego into two somewhat contradictory parts: for fictional purposes (and possibly to satisfy a long-burning envy) he promotes himself, as Frank Flaherty, to Bob Haldeman's old post as Nixon's right-hand man instead of the lesser job Ehrlichman actually held as domestic affairs advisor. But since this might imply he knew more about Watergate shenanigans than he told Judge Sirica, he also hives himself off into William Martin, the passive conduit. Not even Sherlock Holmes, I suspect, could find any incriminating evidence against John Ehrlichman in *The Company*. And that, of course, makes it all a bit of a nonsense.

Squat for victory

Nick Wates
The Battle for Tolmers Square
Routledge & Kegan Paul £2.95

Nick Anning

Since 1957 a battle has been going on over the comparatively small, but highly profitable area at the top of London's Tottenham Court Road known as Tolmers Village. The early Victorian Tolmers Square has been constantly in the thick of this battle. The forces involved are all too familiar in our big cities in recent times: private property speculators versus community pressure groups, with local councils helplessly and often hopelessly enmeshed, unable to reconcile the financial pressures behind "redevelopment" with the wishes of local inhabitants. Tolmers Square and the twelve acre site around it has become a symbol of the ills of many of Britain's inner city areas. Nick Wates has written an illustrated history of Tolmers Village with the inside knowledge of a resident and the qualification of a degree in architecture, planning, building and environmental studies.

In the late 1950s speculators began to move into the Tolmers area, attracted by the central position of a site which promised massive profits from office "redevelopment." The existing groups of residential accommodation, thriving shops, light industry and a few small offices were to make way for office tower blocks. The mixed nationality, working class community of Tolmers Village would be uprooted and dispersed in the name of capitalist enterprise and progress.

The most well known of all of these speculators was Joe Levy, a man with an apparently insatiable appetite for "redevelopment," who controlled Stock Conversion and Investment Trust—the same successful team that foisted Centre Point and Euston Towers on an unsuspecting London public. Camden council, created from the former LCC in 1965 and generally controlled by Labour during the last decade, attempted to involve itself in the fate of Tolmers Village too. Not surprisingly it failed to make much headway, for reasons endemic in the market forces deployed against it: land prices in potential development areas had rocketed and office rents and rates provide the quickest return on capital borrowed from central government or private sources, particularly when interest rates are rising all the time. Consequently, Camden's own solution to the development of Tolmers Village would involve a housing loss for the area. Once more the local residents would be the losers.

The most obvious recourse for a dissatisfied community was to fight back through its tenants association, led in the early days by the indomitable Rose Gavin. But inevitably Tolmers Village began to suffer from neglect and blight, sometimes unintentional, but more often deliberately engineered by Stock Conversion and Investment Trust.

This process is dramatically illustrated here by numerous photographs and a wealth of interview material. Eventually the Tolmers Village Association grew out of the now depleted tenants association and, helped by support in the local Labour Party and a well organised squatter-student community in Tolmers Square itself, stood firmly against both Levy and Camden Council. A media campaign was started with the support of a couple of enterprising journalists and finally Levy withdrew, although he was compensated for all his troubles to the tune of some £20 million—out of public funds. Meanwhile, Tolmers Square still fights on against a Camden redevelopment proposal which insists on putting offices before people. It is a small foothold in increasingly threatened territory.

Nick Wates has done a good job in chronicling the Tolmers struggle, but history is merely one side of the issue. His book falls short on the political conclusions which should be drawn from the battle for Tolmers. Small groups can organise successfully, take initiatives, run campaigns, rejuvenate whole areas and win limited victories for their particular cause. They cannot see themselves in isolation from the

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