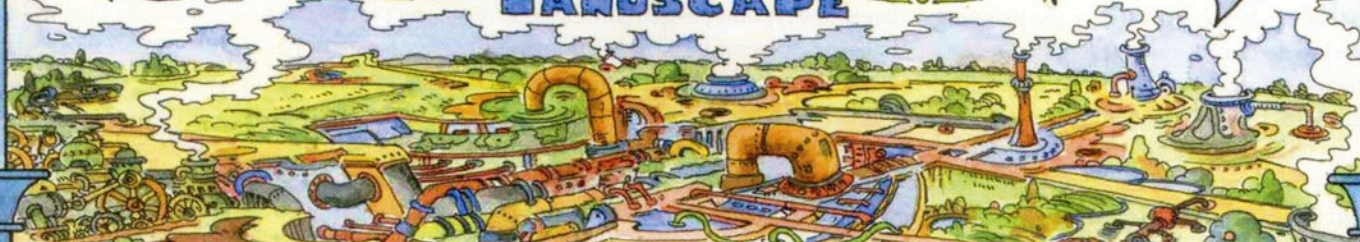


THE STEAMPUNK PHENOMENON IS A NATURAL REACTION TO THE STERILE PLASTIC WORLD OF CONTEMPORARY TECHNOLOGY. THE MAJOR TENET OF STEAMPUNK IDEOLOGY HAS BEEN TO INJECT AN ELEMENT OF HUMANITY & PASSION INTO SOMETHING COLD & VIRTUAL. OUR SHORT JAUNT WILL EXPLORE ITS IMPACT ON THE WORLD OF DESIGN & DELVE INTO THE PAST & FUTURE OF

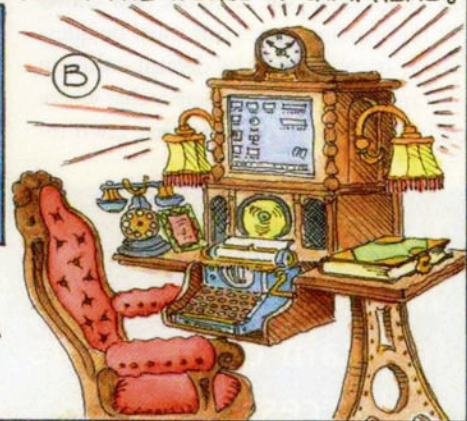
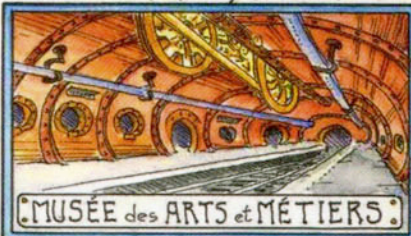
THE

STEAMPUNK

LANDSCAPE

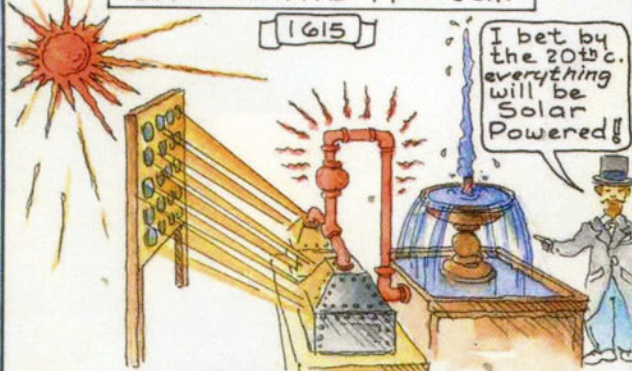


FRANÇOIS SCHUITEN IS A CONTEMPORARY BELGIAN COMIC BOOK ARTIST WHOSE WORK IS INFLUENCED BY THE SCIENTIFIC FANTASIES OF JULES VERNE. HIS VISIONARY STORIES FEATURE FANTASTIC CITIES & IMAGINARY LANDSCAPES, AS SHOWN ABOVE. A STEAMPUNK VOCABULARY INSPIRED HIS DESIGN FOR THE ARTS & MÉTIERS METRO STATION BUILT IN PARIS, VIVIDLY EVOKING THE WORLD OF CAPT. NEMO.



AN IDEAL EXAMPLE OF THE INTERSECTION OF MODERN TECHNOLOGY WITH THE GRACE & INTRICACY OF VICTORIAN STYLE IS EXEMPLIFIED IN THE CREATIONS OF RICHARD DATAMANCER NAGY. HE RETRO-FITS COMPUTER KEYBOARDS (A) WITH TYPEWRITER KEYS & USES A TELEGRAPH SET FOR A MOUSE. HE ALSO CONSTRUCTS WORKSTATIONS (B) WITH TYPEWRITER KEYBOARDS, CD PLAYERS & MONITORS SET INTO VICTORIAN CABINETS.

BACK IN THE 17th cen.



◦ SOLAR FUELED STEAM FOUNTAIN ◦

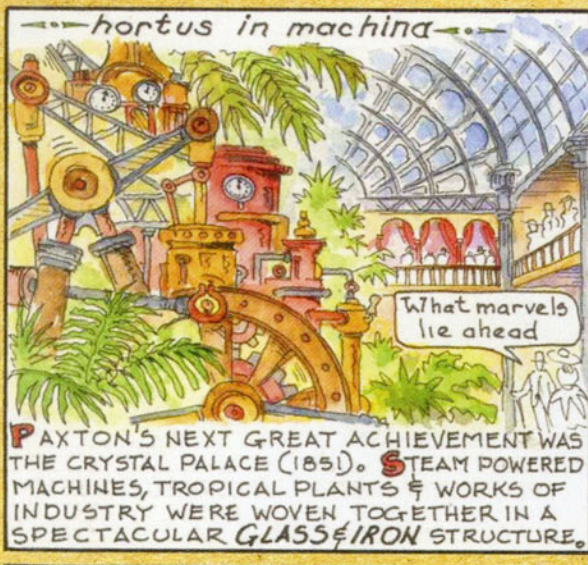
IN 1615 SALOMON DE CAUS WROTE "Les Raisons des Forces Mouvants" ON THE THEORY & PRACTICE OF HYDRAULICS. IN IT HE DESCRIBES A DEVICE THAT USES MAGNIFYING LENSES TO INCREASE & FOCUS THE SUN'S RAYS ON METAL WATER CONTAINERS, PRODUCING STEAM PRESSURE TO OPERATE GARDEN FOUNTAINS.

THE GREAT STOVE

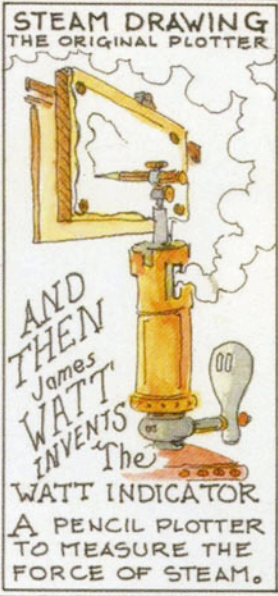


SCIENTIFIC HORTICULTURE

THE GREAT STOVE AT CHATSWORTH COULD BE CONSIDERED THE 1st STEAMPUNK LANDSCAPE. DESIGNED BY JOSEPH PAXTON IN 1836, IT WAS THE LARGEST GLASS HOUSE CONSTRUCTED AT THE TIME. THE BOILERS FOR HEATING THE CONSERVANCY WERE BUILT INTO THE FOUNDATION OF THE BUILDING. COAL FOR THE BOILERS WAS DELIVERED THRU UNDERGROUND TRAIN TRACKS. THE BOILER FLUES WERE TAKEN UNDERGROUND UP THE HILLSIDE & VENTED THRU STACKS ALONG THE STAIRS.

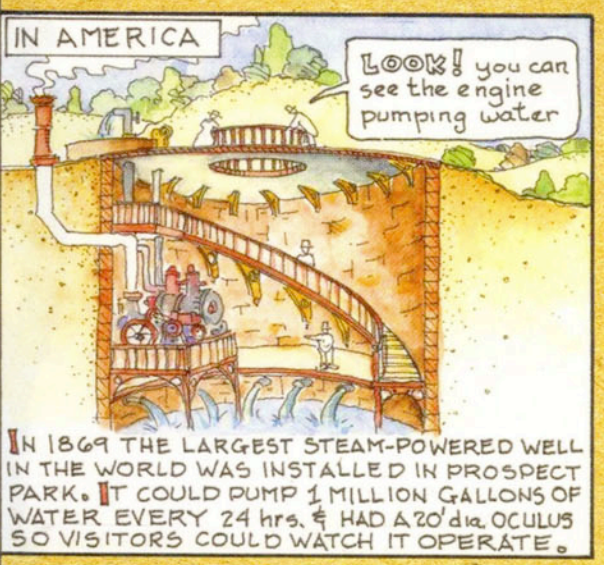


PAXTON'S NEXT GREAT ACHIEVEMENT WAS THE CRYSTAL PALACE (1851). STEAM POWERED MACHINES, TROPICAL PLANTS & WORKS OF INDUSTRY WERE WOVEN TOGETHER IN A SPECTACULAR GLASS & IRON STRUCTURE.

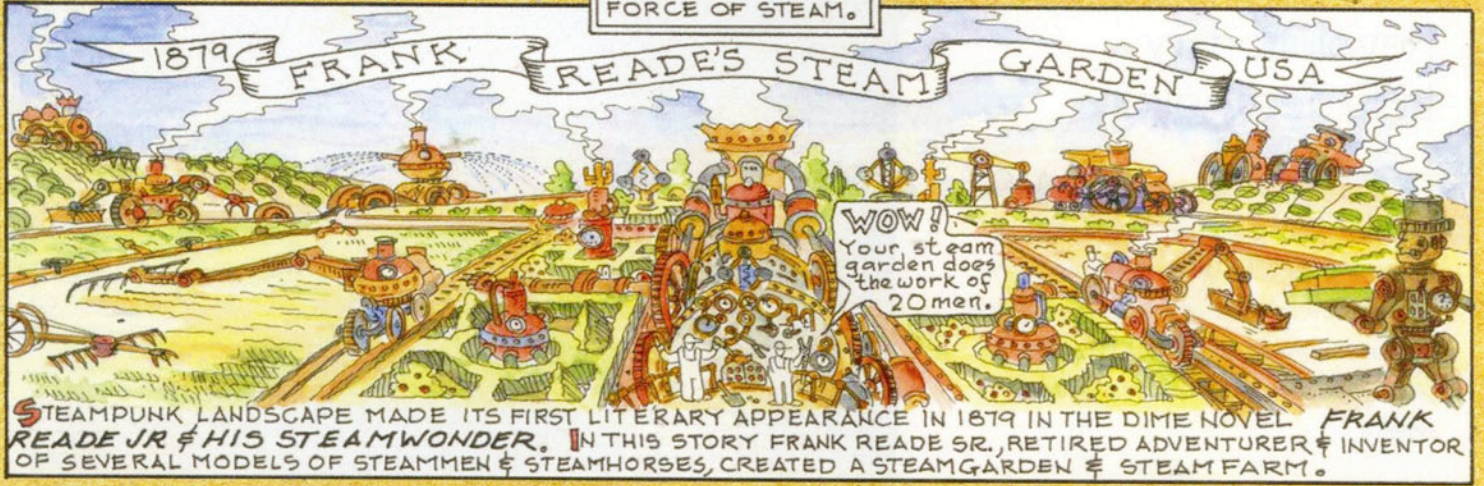


STEAM DRAWING THE ORIGINAL PLOTTER

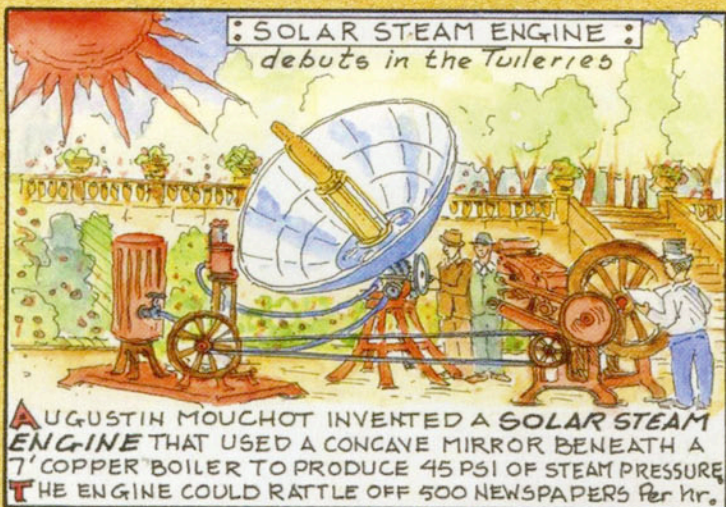
AND THEN James WATT INVENTS The WATT INDICATOR. A PENCIL PLOTTER TO MEASURE THE FORCE OF STEAM.



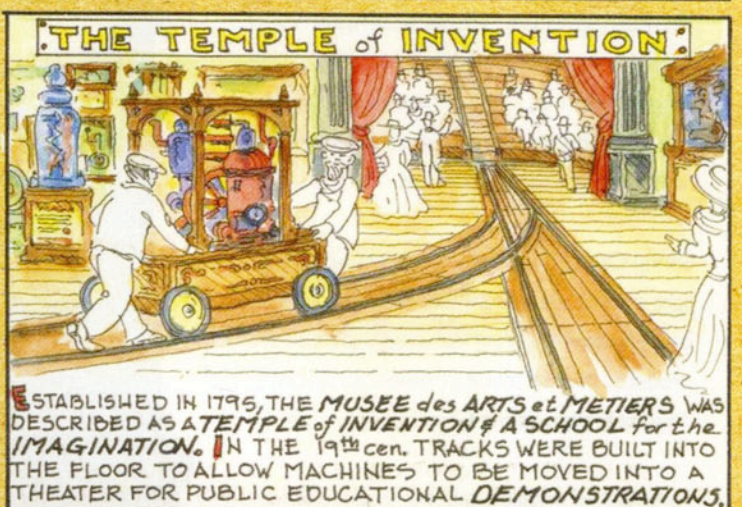
IN 1869 THE LARGEST STEAM-POWERED WELL IN THE WORLD WAS INSTALLED IN PROSPECT PARK. IT COULD PUMP 1 MILLION GALLONS OF WATER EVERY 24 HRS. & HAD A 20' dia OCULUS SO VISITORS COULD WATCH IT OPERATE.



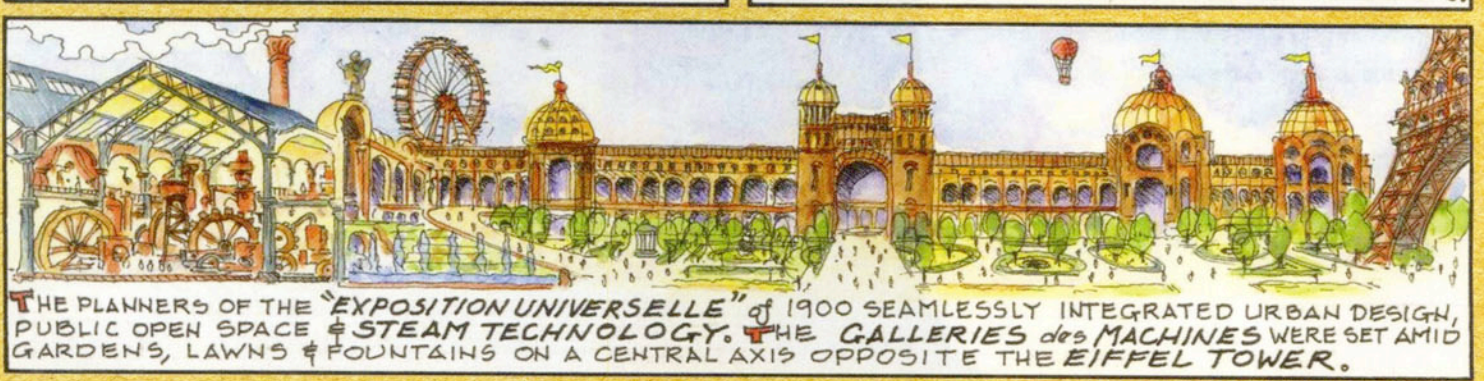
STEAMPUNK LANDSCAPE MADE ITS FIRST LITERARY APPEARANCE IN 1879 IN THE DIME NOVEL FRANK READE JR & HIS STEAMWONDER. IN THIS STORY FRANK READE SR, RETIRED ADVENTURER & INVENTOR OF SEVERAL MODELS OF STEAMMEN & STEAMHORSES, CREATED A STEAMGARDEN & STEAM FARM.



AUGUSTIN MOUCHOT INVENTED A SOLAR STEAM ENGINE THAT USED A CONCAVE MIRROR BENEATH A 7' COPPER BOILER TO PRODUCE 45 PSI OF STEAM PRESSURE. THE ENGINE COULD RATTLE OFF 500 NEWSPAPERS per hr.



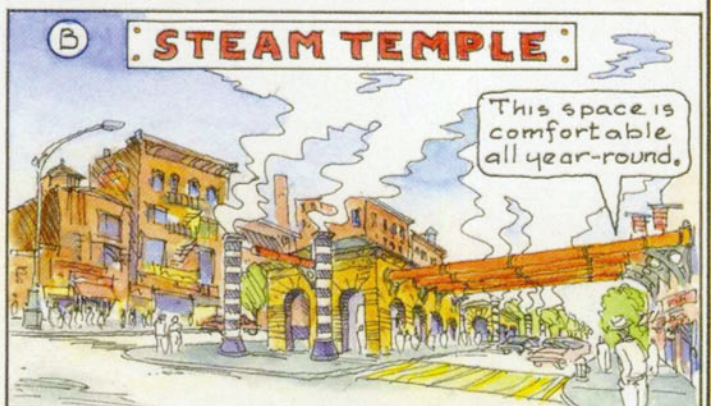
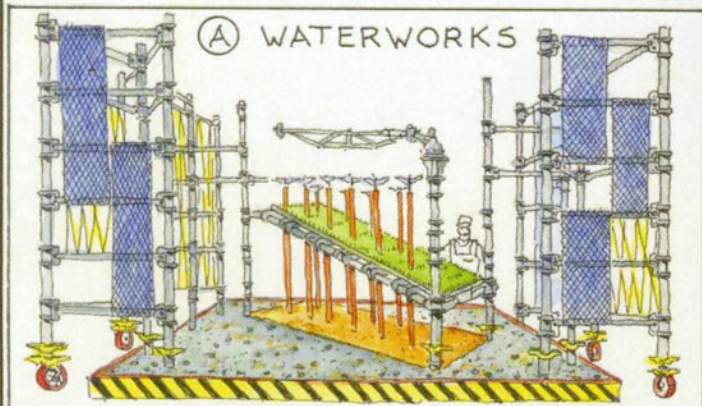
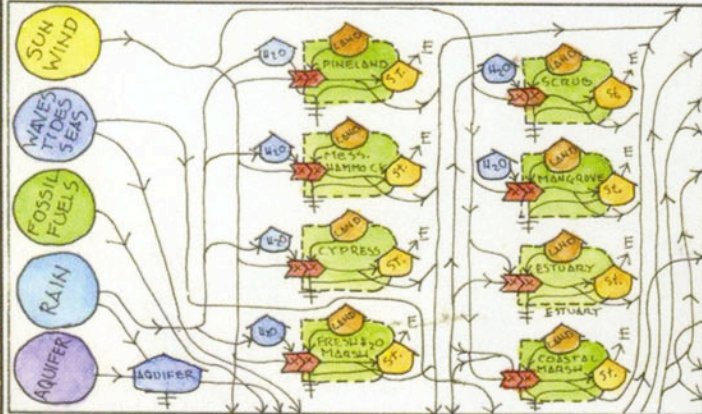
ESTABLISHED IN 1795, THE MUSEE des ARTS et METIERS WAS DESCRIBED AS A TEMPLE of INVENTION & A SCHOOL for the IMAGINATION. IN THE 19th cen. TRACKS WERE BUILT INTO THE FLOOR TO ALLOW MACHINES TO BE MOVED INTO A THEATER FOR PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL DEMONSTRATIONS.



THE PLANNERS OF THE "EXPOSITION UNIVERSELLE" of 1900 SEAMLESSLY INTEGRATED URBAN DESIGN, PUBLIC OPEN SPACE & STEAM TECHNOLOGY. THE GALLERIES des MACHINES WERE SET AMID GARDENS, LAWNS & FOUNTAINS ON A CENTRAL AXIS OPPOSITE THE EIFFEL TOWER.



AS THE WONDERMENT OF THE MACHINE AGE BEGAN TO WANE, THE POETRY OF MOVING GEARS, COGS, CYLINDERS & WHEELS GRADUALLY BECAME CONCEALED. THIS PROCESS CAN BE SUMMED UP IN THE ABOVE ILLUSTRATION, WHICH DIAGRAMS THE EVOLUTION OF LOCOMOTIVE STREAMLINING IN THE 1930s & 40s. TODAY OUR WORLD'S MECHANISMS HAVE MOSTLY BECOME MINISCULE, BURIED IN PLASTIC & SILICON. WE CAN NO LONGER SEE HOW THINGS WORK. THE INFRASTRUCTURE OF LANDSCAPE IS HIDDEN & COSMETICALLY SCREENED. CONVERSELY, THE WORK OF SCIENTIST HOWARD ODUM & THE PAINTINGS OF CHARLES BURCHFIELD REVEAL INSIGHTS INTO THE HIDDEN FORCES OF NATURE. ODUM DIAGRAMMED THE FLOWS OF ENERGY THRU ECOSYSTEMS & BURCHFIELD EXPRESSED NATURAL PROCESSES THRU ABSTRACTION.

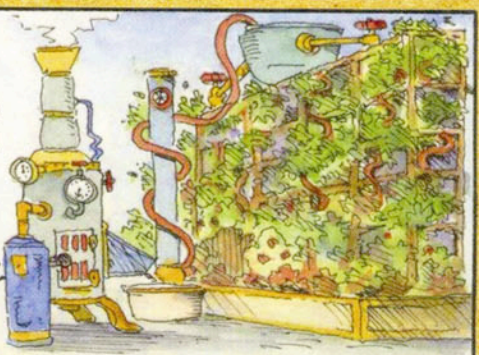


ODUM & BURCHFIELD ILLUMINATED THE LANDSCAPE IN THE LAB & STUDIO; LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT GARY STRANG HAS DEVELOPED A DESIGN METHODOLOGY FOR "LANDSCAPE as INFRASTRUCTURE." STRANG BELIEVES THAT THE "masking of infrastructure is not only misleading but impractical" & PROPOSES THAT "significant sources, paths & transition points of our collectively owned resources should be made legible in the landscape." THE TWO ART INSTALLATIONS ABOVE ILLUSTRATED THIS POTENTIAL. (A) WATERWORKS PRESENTS LANDSCAPE AS A TECHNOLOGICAL & NATURAL CONSTRUCT, ACCENTUATING THE INFRASTRUCTURE THAT SUPPORTS IT. (B) STEAM TEMPLE EXPRESSES THE VAST INFRASTRUCTURE OF NEW YORK CITY, CREATING A MICROCLIMATE THAT IS MODIFIED WITH ELEMENTS FROM UNDERGROUND.

the STEAM BOHEMIANS



THE BERKELEY "SHIPTARD" IS AN EXPERIMENTAL LABORATORY DEDICATED TO DEVELOPING ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGIES. FOR THE PAST FEW YEARS ITS MEMBERS HAVE BEEN EXPLORING THE POTENTIAL OF ORGANIC GASIFIERS TO PRODUCE FUEL FOR MOTIVE POWER. THE BY-PRODUCTS ARE THEN RECYCLED THRU A VERTICAL GARDEN IN WHICH ITS REGENERATION SYSTEMS ARE EXPOSED & VISIBLE.



"THE MOVEMENT TOWARD A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE MUST INCLUDE THE PEELING AWAY OF INTERVENING IMAGES BETWEEN LANDSCAPE FUNCTION & LANDSCAPE EXPERIENCE." ROBERT THAYER