THE ORIGINAL GREEN

ICA/CA
San Antonio
10 April 05

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THE NEW URBAN GUILD
Miami Beach, Florida, USA
What’s the Problem?

1. the Absence of Plain-Spoken Sustainability
2. the Supply-Side Focus
3. the Carbon Focus
4. the Achilles Heel of Architecture
5. the Trouble with Consumption
6. the Problem of Growth
7. the Fate of “Ought-To”
8. the Dilemma of Global Warming
9. the Danger of Wishes

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10. the Absence of Plain-Spoken Sustainability
WHAT it TAKES to STAY ALIVE

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9. the Danger of Wishes

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8. the DILEMMA of GLOBAL WARMING

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7. the Fate of “Ought-To”
6. the Problem of Growth
5. the TROUBLE with CONSUMPTION

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Planned Obsolescence
THROWAWAY BUILDINGS
THROWAWAY PLACES
Houston
4. the Achilles Heel of Architecture

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the Necessity of Uniqueness

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the ENORMOUS EFFORT
to Figure It Out

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3. the **Carbon Focus**

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2. the Supply-Side Focus

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the Gizmo Green Delusion

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the Fallacies of Efficiency

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1. the 2.5 Billion People

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What Can We Do?

10. the Things that Work
9. the Diversified Extent
8. the Diversified Environment
7. the Diversified Means
6. the Expanded Uses
5. the Narrowed Resource Range
4. the Expanded Comfort Range
3. the Localized Operations
2. the Sharing of Wisdom
1. the Involvement of Everyone

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10. the Things that Work

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9. the **Diversified Extent**

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8. the Diversified Environment

The Transect is the operating system of the New Urbanism. The idea of the Transect originated in the 1900's as an ecological tool used to describe a series of natural habitats, but transects have existed in nature since the dawn of time.

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the Transect

★ T1: Natural (the wilderness)

★ T2: Rural (fields & meadows)

★ T3: Suburban (the outskirts)

★ T4: General Urban (neighborhoods)

★ T5: Urban Center (main street)

★ T6: Urban Core (downtown)
7. the Diversified Means

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the Classical Ideal

Charleston
Cotswolds
Nantucket
Santa Fe
New Orleans
Bermuda
6. the Expanded Uses

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5. the NARROWED RESOURCE RANGE

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4. the EXPANDED Comfort Range

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CONDITIONING the Buildings First

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CONDITIONING the Humans First

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LIVING in Season

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3. the **LOCALIZED OPERATIONS**
Large-Scale Operations

Localized Operations

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2. the Sharing of Wisdom

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What’s The Delivery System?

★ Public Education’s Way
★ Higher Education’s Way
★ the Specialists’ Way
★ Nature’s Way

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Public Education’s Way

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Higher Education’s Way

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the Specialists’ Way

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Nature’s Way

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I. the Involvement of Everyone
What Is A Living Tradition?

★ Inspiration

★ Resonance

★ Repetition

★ Adoption

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The Death of Tradition

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Death by Specialization

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SPECIALISTS & BIG NUMBERS

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The Great Decline

1925–1945

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Lost Their Way

Lost Their Green

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The Dark Ages of Architecture

1945 - 1980

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The New Renaissance

★ First Phase: 1980–2005
★ Second Phase: 2006–?
★ Third Phase: ?–

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Workings of a Living Tradition

★ Easily Perceived
★ Easily Loved
★ Easily Performed
★ ... by the People, not just the Specialists

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The Transmission Device

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The Sophistication of Longevity

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Building the Future
Can Traditional Architecture and Urbanism be Green?
21 - 22 November 2006, London, UK

Sustainable design has changed the direction of this century’s architecture and sustainable communities have become the mantra for planning. The growing awareness of global climate change has led to an awakening of interest in green urbanism and architecture. Most often, green design is seen as something that is quite high tech, as opposed to natural. Vernacular architecture and organically evolved cities have always responded to the limits of the time, whether in response to climate, to resources, or to skills.

This conference examines whether vernacular traditions can offer some lessons about responding to today’s environmental challenges, and the emerging limits imposed by climate change.

Speakers

- Bill Dunster
- Elizabeth Moule
- Stefanos Polyzoides
- James Steele
- Quinlan Terry
- Tom Woolley & others.

The need to create a traditional response is vital when one considers two factors: the overwhelming preference of consumers for traditional residences and the fact that, according to the Sustainable Development Commission, 75% of the homes in which Britons will live in 2050 have already been built. Prominent architects, urbanists and scientists will examine ways that traditional architecture and urbanism can respond to 21st century environmental issues; will look at the sustainable refurbishment of Victorian and Edwardian terraces and will develop a practical agenda for moving forward.

The conference is organised with the support of our partner, the Building Research Establishment. The event will be held at:
Patterns vs. Styles

★ Early Necessity of Style
★ Blunt Instrument vs. Surgical Precision
★ Intelligence of Pattern Discourse

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3 Levels of the Vernacular

★ Style
★ Design Principles
★ Living Vernacular Tradition

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Architecture’s Biomimicry

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That which can reproduce and live sustainably is green; that which is incapable of doing so is not green. This is the standard of life. Life is that process which creates all things green.
What Is the Original Green?

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ASPHALT GREEN
MUNICIPAL ASPHALT PLANT
BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN (1944-1968)
The Original Green

PLACES

BUILDINGS

NOURISHABLE  LOVABLE
ACCESSIBLE  DURABLE
SERVICEABLE  FLEXIBLE
SECURABLE  FRUGAL
The Original Green

PLACES

NOURISHABLE
ACCESSIBLE
SERVICEABLE
SECURABLE

LOVABLE
DURABLE
FLEXIBLE
SERVICEABLE

BUILDINGS

LEED
FRUGAL
NOURISHABLE PLACES

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Accessible Places

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SERVICEABLE PLACES

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Securable Places

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Lovable Buildings

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DOWN the UNLOVABLE CARBON STAIR-STEPS

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GREEN
Mockery

SUSTAINABLY
Green

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THE DEMOLITION OF THE MONTH

MONTEREAU, France, Ile-de-France - Tours Lavoisier: demolition, 2006

(A) Tours Lavoisier: BEFORE demolition

(B) Tours Lavoisier: BEFORE demolition

(C) Tours Lavoisier: DURING demolition

(D) Tours Lavoisier: DURING demolition

(E) Tours Lavoisier: DURING demolition

(F) Tours Lavoisier: DURING demolition

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Durable Buildings

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UNNATURALLY USED MATERIALS

NATURALLY USED MATERIALS

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“No Maintenance”

Repairable & Patchable

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Flexible Buildings

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Proximity to Street

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Simplicity of Massing

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Simplicity of Circulation

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Frugal Buildings

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Sustainability and the Meltdown
Be Frugal First

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Then Bridge The Gap

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Putting Buildings Back to Work

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Frugality

Energy

Construct

Construct

Construct

Operate

Recycle

Transport

Water & Air

Nature

Wellness

Material
Frugality

Gizmo Green Living Traditions

New Urbanism

Energy

CONSTRUCT

Gizmo Green

LIVING TRADITIONS

TRANSPORT

NATURE

Gizmo Green

ENERGY

MATERIAL

CONSTRUCT

Gizmo Green

LIVING TRADITIONS

OPERATE

LIV. TRAD.

RECYCLE

WATER & AIR

WELLNESS

GG

LT

GG

GG

CONSTRUCT

Gizmo Green

LIVING TRADITIONS

RECYCLE

Gizmo Green

LIV. TRAD.
The Original Green

PLACES

NOURISHABLE
Organic Farming

ACCESSIBLE
Compact & Walkable

SERVICEABLE
Diverse

SECURABLE
Identity

BUILDINGS

LOVABLE
NU: Codes

DURABLE
Living Traditions

FLEXIBLE
Living Traditions

FRUGAL
Living Traditions

GIZMO GREEN
Living Traditions
New Stuff

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Smart Dwelling I

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Footprint of the Garden

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Kitchen Garden

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Meeting the Sky

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Breeze Chimney

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Tower of Wind and Water

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SIDEYARD SAIL

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INVISIBLE THINGS

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Windows and Shutters

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LAUNDRY EAVE

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Chickens and Compost

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Green Wall

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Cool Dip in the Master Garden

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Rose Town

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By Today’s Builders

By Their Grandparents

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AN EDUCATED MAN IS ONE WHO HAS LEARNED HOW TO GET WHAT HE WANTS WITHOUT VIOLATING THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS.
Living Tradition

Building in Rose Town

Where to Build

Higher Ground

Build your home on higher ground so that the floods do not make you homeless.

How to Build

Building Shape & Walls

Above the Flood

Raise the floor of your house at least half your height above the ground because even the higher ground will flood in the worst of storms.

Strong Foundation

Building strong with heavy columns of brick, block, or concrete so that logs and branches washing along in the flood do not smash your foundation and sweep your house away.

Light Wings

Build your house where each room has at least two outdoor walls, letting light and air into every room, because light exposes the dirt and air dry the wet things that would make you sick.

Ceiling Height

Build your ceilings high, up twice your height or more, so that the hot air can rise, keeping you cooler.

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Build the wall where the sun sets as narrow as possible, then protect it from the hot, afternoon sun with husher and louvered verandahs so that you stay cooler in your home.

Build your walls of mud or brick so they are stronger when the hurricane comes.

Build most of your house from materials available in Jamaica whenever possible so that you do not have to pay for shipping heavy materials from overseas.

Protect your windows with solid board shutters, so that you can quickly shut the shutters to protect your home when the storm is on its way.

Build at least one window on each end of your house that is either under a tree or under a verandah so you can leave these windows open and pull cool air into your home.
3. Verandas & Balconies

Street Veranda

Build a veranda opening onto the street, because it is in sitting on the street veranda that you can both visit with your neighbors, and also take back your street from those who are behaving rudely or out of order.

Back Veranda

Build a veranda in your yard so you can work on things outdoors but out of the sun.

Bevelled Posts

Bevel the corners of all your veranda posts so that they last longer and are more comfortable to lean against.

4. Eaves & Roofs

Hip Roof

Build your roof sloping up equally from all walls so that each part of the roof strengthens the parts beside it in a storm.

Roof Slope

Slope your roof so that its height is 2/3 to 3/4 of its width, from ridge to eave, so that it will be strongest in a storm.
Let your roof overhang your wall a very short distance so that the hurricane has less area to grab, so that your roof might better survive the storm.

**Sacrificial Eave**

If you must have a large overhang somewhere on your house, build it as a separate eave that can be sacrificed to the storm, leaving your main roof unharmed.

**Zinc Roof**

Fixen your zinc roof using many screws, especially at the edges, which is where the hurricane attacks it most fiercely.

**Zinc Roof Paint**

Paint your zinc roof with zinc paint when it gets dusty so that its life is prolonged, and so that the zinc will reflect the sun's heat back to the sky, keeping you cooler.

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Build a high vent near the center of your house so that the hot air near your ceiling can escape, pulling cooler air in your windows.

**5. Attachments & Shipwork**

**Upper Stairs**

If you build an upstairs, put the stairs outside so that they do not take up space in your house.

**Front Wall**

Let there be a wall built at the front of your house which is as tall as your shoulder, so that your yard is private from the street but you can watch the street from your verandah.
**Front Garden**

Plant the land in front of your front wall with a front garden to make your street a more pleasant place and be a gift to your neighbors.

**Rainwater**

Build a rain trough or gutters around your roof and store the rainwater in a cistern where you can use it later.

**Bathing**

Build at least one bath in every yard so that the people living in that yard can clean themselves.

**Sewage**

Do not release sewage into the ground before digesting it in a septic tank so that you do not further contaminate Rose Tywon's soil and water.

**Workshop**

Build the place where you work near the street so your raw materials are easy to deliver and your customers don't need to come into your yard.

**Gardens**

Plant your yard with things you can eat; for why should your yard lay fallow while you spend more of your money at the grocery store?
Plant your yard with things you can eat for why should your yard lay fallow while you spend more of your money at the grocery store?

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Plant your yard for why lay fallow while money at...
Fostering Life

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