

Contents

Acknowledgments	xiii
Foreword by Hazel Henderson	xv
Preface to the Second Edition	xix
Introduction	1
Chapter 1: As We Build, So Shall We Live	5
What We Seem to Be Building	7
Getting down to Basics	10
A New Synthesis Architecture	14
Wilderness and the Wildness of Cities	8
Chapter 2: The City in Evolution	25
Gaia, the Self-Regulating Planet	30
The Urban Comet	31
Islands and Extinctions	34
The City as Organism	38
The Three-Dimensional City	41
Lessons	44
Chapter 3: The City in Nature	47
The Nature of the City	48
Elephants in Berkeley	49
Native Americans and Invaders	53
Bioregions, Hinterlands, and Cities	62
Buffalo Commons	67
Learning from Nature, Learning from Cities	71

Chapter 4: The City in History	75
Village Foundations	75
Emerging Cities	79
Bridging History, Nature, and Evolution	80
Modern Times	83
The Esthetic Tradition	4
Chapter 5: The City Today	105
Rebuilding and Rethinking — In That Order	106
Appropriate Technology	112
Paradigms and Permaculture Principles	115
“Improved” Suburbs, Revitalized Downtowns	120
Communities on the Cutting Edge	125
The State of the Theory	132
Chapter 6: Access and Transportation	137
Access and Adventure	137
Consequences of Our Car Addiction	141
Better Cars?	148
Freeway Battles	153
For Love of Rail and Ferry	158
Personal Transportation: Bicycles, Carts, Shoes	161
Being There Instead of Getting There	166
“Intelligent” Highways, Cars, and Buildings	175
Depaving while Rebuilding	176
Chapter 7: What to Build	181
The Builder’s Sequence	181
Ecocity Principles	182
Bike Tour	184
Ecocity Layout	192
Walkable Centers	194
Complex Buildings and New Synthesis Architecture	198
Water	203

Natural Features and Biodiversity	204
Arcologies, Armatures, and Implantations	205
Chapter 8: Plunge on in!	211
Four Steps to an Ecology of the Economy: Map, List, Incentives, People	211
The Four Steps Exemplified: Ideas for Ithaca	216
Ecocities and Rethinking Economic Ideas	220
Chapter 9: Personal Odyssey	229
Berkeley: The Early Years	231
Ecocity Builders	239
Assessments	
Chapter 10: Tools to Fit the Task	247
Ecocity Zoning: Mapping the Future	247
Transfer of Development Rights	261
The Ecological General Plan	266
Roll Back Sprawl	270
The International Ecological Rebuilding Program	271
The Ecocity Organization	275
Chapter 11: What the Fast-Breaking News May Mean	279
9/11 and 12/12: Dreams and Nightmares	282
The New American Empire	291
Climate Change	293
Peak Oil	299
Collapse	302
Best Options in Dark Times	305
Chapter 12: Toward Strategies for Success	311
Back to Basics: Example Strategies for Curitiba	315
Jon Jerde and Ken Yeang	321
Strategies for Built-out Cities	327
The Heart of the City Project	329

Ecocity Strategies	333
Building a Culture of Acceptance	338
Art and Imagination	339
Afterword: Rebuilding New Orleans	341
Further Reading	345
Notes	349
Index	355
About the Author	373