Contents

	Foreword to the First Edition by Albert Bates	13
	Foreword to the Second Edition by Bill Steen	X
	Acknowledgments	xiii
	Introduction: An Open Door by Michael G. Smith	1
	Part One: The Context for Natural Building	
1.	The Case for Natural Building by Michael G. Smith	11
2.	Natural Building: A Global Tradition by Catherine Wanek	17
3.	The Importance of Housing Ourselves by Ianto Evans	23
4.	Natural Building and Social Justice by Rob Bolman	27
5.	Sustainability and Building Codes by David Eisenberg	31
6.	Can My Natural Home Get a LEED Rating? by Joseph F. Kennedy and Ann V. Edminster	37
7.	Life-Cycle Cost and Value of Four Houses by David A. Bainbridge	43
8.	In Defense of Craft by Patrick Webb.	49
	Part Two: Design and Planning	
9.	Designing for Vitality by Carol Venolia	55
10.	The Healthy House by Paula Baker-Laporte	61
11.	Eighteen Design Principles to Make Square Feet Work Harder by Robert Gay	65

12.	Designing with the Sun by Susie Harrington	69
13.	Natural Building for Cold Climates by Jacob Deva Racusin	73
14.	Hybrid Homes: Combining Natural Materials for Energy Efficiency by Catherine Wanek and Michael G. Smith	81
15.	Remodeling with Natural Materials by Joseph F. Kennedy and Janine Björnson	91
16.	Siting a Natural Building by Michael G. Smith.	99
17.	The Permaculture House by Peter Bane	107
18.	Complementary Systems for Energy-Efficient Homes by Michael G. Smith	115
19.	Regenerative Building: An Ecological Approach by Michael G. Smith	131
20.	Building the Natural Village: A Strategy for Repairing Cities by Mark Lakeman	137
	Part Three: Natural Building Materials and Techniques	
21.	Natural Building Materials: An Overview by Joseph F. Kennedy	145
22.	Foundations for Natural Buildings by Michael G. Smith	155
23.	Stone Masonry by Michael G. Smith	163
24.	Adobe Building by Paul G. McHenry	171
25.	A Brief History of Cob Building by Michael G. Smith	181
26.	Rammed Earth: From Pisé to PISE by Scott Grometer	189
27.	Compressed Earth Blocks by Hubert Guillaud	195
28.	Building with Earthbags by Joseph F. Kennedy and Kelly Hart	203
29.	Digging in for Comfort by Kelly Hart	211
30.	Cordwood Masonry: An Overview by Rob Roy	215
31.	Straw Bale Building: Lessons Learned by Catherine Wanek	221
32.	Building with Hemp by Tom Woolley	233
33.	Light-Clay: An Introduction to German Clay Building Techniques by Frank Andresen	245
34.	Wattle and Daub by Joseph F. Kennedy	253

407

57. Earthen Building Comes to Thailand by Janell Kapoor

viii The Art of Natural Building

58.	Natural Building Thrives in Argentina by Max Edleson	•			٠	•	413
59.	Builders Without Borders by Catherine Wanek	•			٠		421
60.	Ecovillages and Sustainable Communities by Joseph F. Kennedy	•					429
61.	Tlholego Village: A Sustainable Community in South Africa $\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \$	•					435
62.	Building with Earth in Auroville by Hilary Smith and Satprem Maïni	•					441
63.	Friland: Affordable Housing in Community by Lars Keller and Joanna Morandin	•					447
64.	Evolving a Village Vernacular in Missouri by Mark Mazziotti	•					453
	Index						459

The information in this book is based on the experience and opinions of the individual authors and has not been independently verified by the editors. Some of the techniques described herein are quite new and still under development; others are ancient, but may lack extensive scientific and technical study. The resurgence of natural building is still in an experimental stage. Claims as to the insulation value, structural strength, fire safety, health benefits, environmental benefits and so on of the various materials and techniques should be considered preliminary. Always do your own research and testing and/or consult a qualified professional before embarking on a building project.