

The State of the Arcology Address

September 9, 2003 A.D.

Topics

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Arcological Links

Here are some web sites other people have made pertaining to Arcology, from info, stories, to a card game, to music.

<http://www.kheper.net/topics/arcology/arcology.htm>

<http://www.angelfire.com/games2/warpspawn/Arcology.html>

<http://www.wire-arcology.com/phpBB2/>

<http://www.wire-arcology.com/mix.html>

http://www.geocities.com/though_the_looking_glass/html/the_arcology.htm

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<http://arcology.meetup.com/members/>
<http://home.earthlink.net/~jefbuder/ecodesign/arcology/arcologymain.htm>
<http://www.space.homestead.com/designs.html>

There are plenty of other links out there, many made by alumni, others made by who ever. If you know of a link please submit it to me and I'll post it in the next SAA.

Arcologies are Popping Up Like Mushrooms

From Jeff Buderer

The Green Century Institute (GCI) is developing an initial study and general proposal for a model ecocity community of 7000-10000 people to be built in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Califia will combine a revolutionary "arcological" (architecture-ecology) design integrating cutting edge sustainable development and technology resources with community innovations. These innovations include extended family communal housing configurations, new kinds of public facilities and services, advanced power generation and recycling systems, permaculture farms and greenhouses, non-traditional financing and "social capital" programs. The dramatic, integrated complex will meld natural environments with dense urban spaces. It will be built in phases over a 10 year period.

Proposed Features and Components of Califia

- o Location: within 30 minutes of San Francisco/Oakland metropolitan area
- o Space use: 50% living, 25% commercial/public, 25% public/circulation/services
- o LEED-certified development (United States Green Building Counsel (www.usgbc.org))
- o Sustainable design and technology features
- o Advanced power generation and recycling systems
- o "Extended family" group housing
- o Generous public spaces and facilities
- o Digital network/media infrastructure

- o "Social capital" real estate investment programs
- o Innovative community support programs
- o Advanced horticulture and permaculture - farms, greenhouses, parks, small gardens
- o Performing arts center
- o Healing and spiritual practice center
- o Writer/Artist retreat center
- o High Tech/High Touch research laboratories
- o Museum of Information Design - sponsored by Bay Area technology firms
- o Green Community Network headquarters and meeting facilities

Active Advisors

Two world leaders in urban design, Paolo Soleri's Cosanti Foundation and Jon Jerde's Jerde Partnership International, are making significant in-kind contributions to the conception and design of Califia. Other Active Advisors for the Califia project, such as Liz Burdock and Martin Samuels, are pioneering sustainable development of new communities through a variety of significant initiatives.

Paolo Soleri, renowned for his ecological design ideas, built [Arcosanti](#) in central Arizona, a mixed-use model [arcology](#) or "urban laboratory" as he calls it in central Arizona.

[The Jerde Partnership International](#) in Los Angeles, founded by Jon Jerde, is currently considered the leading urban design firm internationally. With over 100 major projects around the world, including several billion dollar-plus mixed use developments in major urban centers such as Tokyo, Taipei, Seoul, Mexico City and Rotterdam. Soleri and Jerde are both contributing early conceptual designs for Califia. GCI plans to involve both groups in broader feasibility research and design development as the project's funding program evolves.

Elizabeth Burdock, VP of Sustainable Development, Dutko Group, Washington, D.C., former Director of PATH program for sustainable development in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Martin Samuels is the founder and President of GreenCity Development Group, Inc., one of the premier sustainable "green" real estate development companies in Northern California. GCDG's GreenCity Lofts project in Oakland, California, will be the largest new construction, green designed, green built, urban-infill, multifamily housing development in the State of California.

For more information on The Calafia Project, contact Green Century Institute managing director Michael Gosney at 415-931-2593 or mgosney@greencenturyinstitute.org.

At This Rate We'll Have the Arcology Built in No Time Flat

It's the OCT season again. OCT is the Osaka College of Technology, a technical university in Osaka, Japan. OCT sends large groups of students out every year around this same time. This year OCT has sent us 35 students the week of September 1, and 20 the week of September 9.

In anticipation of the arrival of the OCT groups we were pushing to create livable dorm rooms in the 'under construction' Phase V of the East Crescent. Construction's priority was to finish out the rooms with dry walls, floors and windows, water, bathroom and solar supplemented electricity. Those are on the second floor of the crescent. The community received the go-ahead to make a temporary Recreation Center in the unfinished first floor, with the ping-pong table, pool table, couches, TV/VCR etc to expand the Community Room usage across site.

The whole east side of the Crescent has been hopping with the OCT group and residents, living, working and playing, and partying.

Come and down and check out the new rooms.

Comings and Goings

I regret to say that Ania Gorka has left Arcosanti. Ania did her workshop in February 2002 and after falling off a mesa stayed on for several months, returned to Canada and then came back. Ania was a Planning Intern and when Nadia Begin went to India, Ania took over as the head of the planning department. She also organized the "Trauction", an auction that raised \$3,000.00 from the Community for the tractor. Her band, Dewey Pump, composed of Ania, James Moskovic and Adam Nordfors played many a shin-dig around Arco, and recently cut a CD. She also did a stellar performance as "Woman who gets an axe in the back" in the local arco-production Dead Man's Hand: A modern day western. All in all it has been

great having Ania professionally and personally, and we will all miss her. Her legend will live on.

Brad Bishop, who was also on the February 2002 Workshop, has left. Brad worked in the construction department for quite awhile, and then left to spend four months in Auroville. Brad is helping to establish a link between Arcosanti and Auroville, creating an exchange program so that both communities can help and learn from each other. He also liked to do cartwheels. We hope Brad will be back to keep helping out.

Eleanor Gillis has returned from the mists of the outside world. Eleanor was originally here in October 1997 and has come back to the crucial task of running the café.

Corey Frenberg who was here in April 2000 recently moved back to Arco. Corey will be taking the position of Woodshop Coordinator and local wise-ass.

Thanks to Corey and Eleanor for coming back, and goodbye to Ania and Brad.

Arcosanti Presents

Different Skies 2003 Electronic Space Music Festival

September 12 & 13, 2003

ARCOSANTI, AZ - On Friday, September 12, and Saturday, September 13, Arcosanti is proud to host Different Skies 2003, a gathering of electronic, experimental and space music artists from around the United States and Europe. This festival is utterly unique in its devotion not only to the music these artists create as part of their own repertoire, but to music written by the artists at Arcosanti as part of a week-long series of workshops and rehearsals culminating in the public performances of Friday and Saturday.

Space music fans, listeners to well-known radio programs like “Music from the Hearts of Space” and “Echoes,” frequently wonder what would happen if a number of their favorite artists, most of whom tend to compose and create music in relative isolation, were to get together and create entirely new music from the experience of meeting and interacting with other space

musicians. For the first time ever, a music festival has been designed to do exactly that, with Arcosanti and its incredible natural surroundings serving as host for the music of the future.

The artist lineup for Different Skies 2003 includes world-famous space music acts like Dweller At The Threshold, Tony Gerber, Giles Reaves, Ma Ja Le, CASSIEL, and Mike Metlay, as well as a number of rising stars in the electronic music firmament. The artists will live and work together at Arcosanti for four days before presenting their concerts to the public. Concerts will be divided between the Vaults and the amphitheatre of the Colly Soleri Music Center, the latter with live interactive computer visuals provided by video artist David Tristram of Tristram Visual (www.tristram.com).

Friday will see two distinct concerts at 2 PM and 7:30 PM, with the artists of Different Skies divided between the two concerts and performing overlapping sets of their own material, altered to flow smoothly from artist to artist. Dinner will be available at the Cafe at Arcosanti for concertgoers wishing to stay for both shows. Tickets for Friday's concerts are \$15 each or \$25 for both; Reservations are required.

Saturday, the Colly Soleri Music Center will host a special concert of entirely new music written by the artists at Arcosanti and performed for the first time ever in front of a live audience. The concert, at 7:30 PM, will be preceded by a tour of Arcosanti at 5 PM and a gourmet dinner at 6 PM. The cost for Saturday is \$15 for the concert, \$30 for the concert, tour, and dinner. Dinner reservations are required, and can be made by calling 928-632-6217 or emailing info@arcosanti.org. Arcosanti is located 2 miles northeast of Cordes Junction (exit 262) off I-17, about 60 miles north of Phoenix.

www.differentskies.com

For those of you who cannot make it to Arcosanti for the Space Music Festival it will be simulcast LIVE over the Internet. You'll just have to visit the webpage during the show and click the link.

In the News

Sent by Stephen Budner

As Suburbs Grow, So Do Waistlines **By BRADFORD McKEE**

HANTILLY, Va.

TWO years ago, Jason and Maria Witt moved here, to the western suburbs of Washington, and fell in love with their 1970's subdivision, Poplar Tree Estates. The Witts bought a 4,800-square-foot house in which they are raising three boys, 8-month-old triplets. They have quiet streets and big lawns. What they do not have is an easy way to walk, as they once did when they lived in Manhattan.

"We can't walk anywhere from our house," said Mrs. Witt, 29, sitting in their large, sky lighted sunroom. The nearest park is close by but too small for meaningful exercise. She's had to resort to an elliptical trainer to work off the 75 pounds she gained during her pregnancy.

And if she and her husband want to get their exercise by shopping or running errands, they have to pack the babies into their Chevrolet Suburban and drive two miles to the Greenbriar Town Center.

The suburban paradox the Witts describe — landed comfort but near-total car dependency — is the subject of a growing debate across the disciplines of public health and urban planning: Is the American suburb, originally conceived as a relaxing alternative to the city, now a contributor to medical problems from obesity to depression and high blood pressure?

A wave of new research on sprawl's effect on health emerged last Thursday when two journals, the American Journal of Public Health and the American Journal of Health Promotion, jointly released special issues on the subject that indicate a significant connection between sprawl and obesity and between sprawl and hypertension.

The number of miles Americans travel on the roads has doubled since 1963, according to Richard J. Jackson, an environmental epidemiologist and the director of the National Center for Environmental Health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta. (He was also the guest editor of the special issue of the American Journal of Public Health.) The number of overweight children ages 6 to 11 has doubled in the last 25 years — the average 11-year-old today weighs 11 pounds more than in 1973. Nearly 65 percent of American adults are now overweight, and the incidence of diabetes doubled between 1980 and 2000, to 12 million cases.

James Robins, professor of epidemiology and biostatistics at the Harvard School of Public Health, has read news reports of the sprawl research. "This seems so far from what people would take as strong scientific evidence or a direct causal link," he said.

"I doubt that these are going to be considered earth-shaking articles in the profession," he said. "But they're very useful for generating interesting hypotheses."

While urban planners tend to discuss the suburbs in quality-of-life terms, researchers increasingly use clinical measures like anxiety, depression and substance abuse. The number of prescriptions for antidepressants has increased remarkably, a point Dr. Jackson makes to suggest that although the suburbs were built for convenience, they may also have wrought their share of frustration by placing life's staples a long drive from home.

People in many suburban neighborhoods find that the streets they live on practically invite them to stay in their cars. There is often simply no sidewalk, forcing some suburbanites to put on their running shoes and pedometers inside giant malls, clocking miles as they pass the various cookie stands, ice cream shops and bagel makers.

A vocal group of urban planners, especially those known as New Urbanists, have embraced the new studies as proof of their longstanding contention that small-town life is the

best. Among other imperatives, the New Urbanists and their followers have cited beauty, nature and money as reasons to face down suburban sprawl, with its dependence on cars, and once again build old-fashioned neighborhoods with streets laid in tight grids. "Now we can say there are physiological issues, too," said Peter Calthorpe, a New Urbanist architect and urban designer in Berkeley, Calif.

The studies issued last week are the clearest example yet that the planning and public health fields are beginning to speak each other's language on suburban sprawl. After focusing for years on Americans' diets, health experts have turned to assess the degree to which Americans' four-wheel lives contribute to obesity, hypertension, coronary disease, diabetes, asthma, even mental disorders like anxiety and depression.

"We do an environmental impact statement for a new subdivision, and we look at trees and birds and the rest," Dr. Jackson said. "But we need to look at the impacts on human health."

Stay-at-home wives have often complained about the isolation of suburbia, working parents point to the killer commutes and teenagers moan about the boredom. Now Dr. Jackson believes there are persuasive, if yet circumstantial, links between the suburbs and certain physical and mental diseases. If so, he said, the building of larger and larger suburbs might be viewed as a colossal mistake.

The study published last week in the American Journal of Health Promotion is the one most likely to alarm public health and planning specialists. The study's authors, Barbara A. McCann, research director of Smart Growth America, an anti-sprawl coalition in Washington, and Reid Ewing, research professor at the National Center for Smart Growth at the University of Maryland in College Park, developed a "sprawl index" to quantify the density of 448 counties nationwide and then compared government health data on 200,000 people living in those counties.

The results of the obesity study — which accounted for

variables like age, gender, race, diet and physical activity — suggest that people in more sprawling suburban areas, like Geauga County, Ohio, and Walton County, Ga., weigh more (as much as six pounds more in the most sprawling areas) and have higher blood pressure than people in more densely developed areas like New York City.

THERE are critics who believe such results are overblown. Wendell Cox, a demographer and transportation consultant in Belleville, Ill., believes the results of the study favor the highest-density cities, like New York. "If you look at San Francisco versus its suburbs, you find a pound or two pounds difference" in expected body weight, Mr. Cox said. "If we all walked like New Yorkers, we'd all weigh a little bit less. But we're not going to weigh like New Yorkers until we all live like New Yorkers."

And in neighborhoods with no sidewalks, walking like New Yorkers is almost impossible. Carol Cowart, a 50-year-old secretary in Nashville, recently moved from a neighborhood that had sidewalks on every street to a neighborhood where there are none. "I can walk in the street," said Ms. Cowart, who is 5 feet 8 inches tall, weighs 220 pounds and needs to exercise for her diabetes. "But if there's a car coming, I have to get off the street and into the dirt." She said she is not likely to push her grandson down the street in a stroller, either. Instead she has to drive six miles twice a week to the Centennial Sportsplex for water aerobics, and the rest of the time to a park where she can walk.

Planning boards and public works officials in some cities have begun making it easier for people to walk around. The city of Nashville has budgeted \$55 million over the past three years and plans to spend another \$230 million in the next decade installing sidewalks throughout the city, said Rick Bernhardt, executive director of the planning department there. The city spends about \$20 per foot of sidewalk, although in difficult areas they can cost \$125 per foot.

Priority for sidewalks in Nashville goes to areas around schools. A study released in April by the Surface Transportation Policy Project, a research and advocacy

group in Washington, found that 71 percent of parents with school-age children walked to school themselves as children, but only 18 percent of their own children walk to school.

William Smith of Silver Spring, Md., saw neighborhood children take buses rather than walk 600 feet to East Silver Spring Elementary School when his children started school in 1999. "Parents don't feel safe with the kids walking," Mr. Smith said.

Peg Cheng, a 31-year-old career counselor at the University of Washington, lives near the old city limit of Seattle, at 85th Street. Beyond 85th Street, she said, there are no sidewalks, "which makes it very difficult for those of us who live near 86th and 87th to walk around our neighborhood."

Some Seattle neighborhoods never got sidewalks after they were annexed by the city. "There was never any money to do it," said David Levinger, president of Feet First, a local pedestrian advocacy group. "In almost all areas of the city, there are rights of way that permit construction of sidewalks," Mr. Levinger said. "Then it becomes a property war over parking."

Of course, no one would want to discourage parking. In fact, it is only when their cars are parked that Americans have the opportunity to get out of them to walk.

Power Point Presentation

We have recently put together a new Power Point presentation to replace the Slide Show for recruitment activities. The presentation includes updated pictures from around site, with text. The presentation also comes with a Presentation guide to help you prepare the verbal component of your presentation.

If you would like to receive a recruitment packet with CD, presentation and brochures you have to join the Recruitment Team, which is an easy and harmless venture.

Our goal is to double the average workshop participation, for that we are doing various strategies BUT the best contacts are those with a personal touch. We ask that you help us grow into 2004, you the alumni all are in a better position to outreach to those groups in your local areas and fields than we are. Your efforts in this would be greatly appreciated here and hopefully help you to enjoy your further participation in the Arcosanti project.

As a member of the Recruitment Team you will receive supplies and information from Arcosanti, as well as regular contacts with the goal of helping you to be able to spread the word about the project in your local area.

What exactly you do would be up to you, from posting brochures, giving slide shows, meeting with classes and professionals, to organizing Custom Workshops, we are just here to offer you what support and information we can. If we are contacted by people in your area, or workshopers sign up from your area we may refer them to you.

Also if you help us out with recruitment we offer two packages for you to take advantage of;

- 1) The Legacy Discount; the child, grandchild or sibling of any alum on the ART receives a 10% discount on tuition for any Workshop Program (unless part of a larger group).
- 2) Sky Suite Bonus; If you send us six people who name you as why they came here and finish the five-week workshop you will receive one free weekend in the Sky Suite (availability permitting).

If you want to be a part of the Arcosanti Recruitment Team please fill out the form below and cut and paste it into an e-mail to me. Let me know if there is anything I can do for you or any questions I can answer. Also, we hope to see you come visit some time.

Thank you for your help and I hope we can help you to enjoy the experience,

Yes, I want to be part of the
Arcosanti Recruitment Team

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date of your workshop: _____

Any other comments:

Sirius Attunement

Dear Friends and Associate Members-

Thank you all for your responses to my questions about the Sirius Attunement format.

Here is the new (TEMPORARY) link to the May and August 2003 Sirius Attunement. <http://www.amysophia.com/satitle.htm>. Based on the responses received, I have decided to try the Attunement as an e-zine. I believe it will serve all of you as it allows ease of access in a short amount of time and has full graphics and design.

I apologize, once again, for needing to list the Attunement on a web site other than Sirius'. Our web designer's computer crashed and he is out of town. If you visit Sirius' web site a month from now, I am sure the Attunement will be listed there: safe and secure in its new home.

As always you are invited to get back to me with any comments or questions about the Sirius Attunement.

Blessings-

Amy Sophia Marashinsky

Sirius Attunement – Editor

The Smithsonian Comes to Arcosanti

So, it's the 21st century already! Where are our George Jetson space crafts? And our personal robots? Will there ever be a real "Time Machine?" What did the future look like for our grandparents and parents? What does it hold for us? For our children?

Welcome to **"Yesterday's Tomorrows: Past Visions of the American Future,"** a traveling exhibition that explores the history of the future--our expectations and beliefs about things to come. From ray guns to robots, to nuclear powered cars, to the Atom-Bomb house, to predictions and inventions that went awry, "Yesterday's Tomorrows" helps us understand the values and hopes Americans hold and have held about the years to come.

Beginning in March, 2001, "Yesterday's Tomorrows" will embark on a five-year tour, traveling to approximately 150 small towns in 25 states. As part of the [Museum on Main Street program](#) of the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and the Federation of State Humanities Councils, these communities will connect their past and present fantasies of the future with those of other communities and with national visions of tomorrow.

Yesterday's Tomorrows will be on display at Arcosanti for six weeks starting in March. Further details will be on the website as they develop.

As part of this exhibit we wish to out reach to local schools at all levels to organize visits and in-school projects supported by the traveling exhibit. If you are, or know of, any teachers who would wish to work with us and come visit the exhibit, please have them contact Wes Ozier, workshop@arcosanti.org

So come on in, look around, and have some fun exploring the future's past with us!

You can learn more about the exhibit itself at <http://www.yesterdaystomorrows.org/>

Thanks for the Stuff

A Thanks from the Community to alumni Stephen Budner for several donations of stuff for the community. Stephen's last package to us included a season of Miami Vice on tape, another season of Star Trek Voyager, several books, sunglasses, a hacksaw, and a battery powered screwdriver that was perfect the AIS to use to repair computers, and a pocket watch.

Stephen has sent us several packages before and we appreciate them all.

THAT'S ALL FOLKS. THANK YOU FOR READING AND FOR BEING A PART OF THE PROJECT. FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR ALUMNI NEEDS, OR WISH TO RETURN, OR ARRANGE A SPECIAL GROUP VISIT. UNTIL NEXT MONTH,

Wes Ozier

WES OZIER, ALUMNI LIAISON,