The Heritage Canada Foundation's Annual Conference The Heritage Imperative: Old Buildings in an Age of Environmental Crisis Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Maturing the 'Greenest Building' Paradigm: The Need to Transform Preservation

Carl Elefante, FAIA, LEED AP Principal Director of Sustainable Design QUINN EVANS | ARCHITECTS

# Sustainable Stewardship = Preservation + Sustainable Design = Renewal + **Transformation**

# What is truly *SUSTAINABLE*? What is effective *STEWARDSHIP*?

#### We are one with the Earth

Earth

Energy

## Life's Elements

Air

#### David Suzuki Water



#### Being Less Bad is NOT Being Good

Why can't buildings *purify* water?

Why can't buildings *sequester* greenhouse gases?

Why can't buildings *increase diversity* and *intensify vitality?* William McDonough

Why can't buildings produce energy?

### Waste = Food

# The Greenest Building is ...







# ... One That is Already Built.









Sustainable Buildings Industry Council

### **Building Industry Impacts**

#### Hurricane Katrina

# Building Industry Impacts Tipping Portion of the state o

PERSPECTIVE OF A CLIMATOLOGIST

JAMES HANSEN

"Animals are on the run. Plants are migrating too."<sup>1</sup> I wrote those words in 2006 to draw attention to the fact that climate change was already under way. People do not notice climate change because it is masked by day-to-day weather fluctuations, and we reside in comfortable homes. Animals and plants, on the other hand, can survive only within certain climatic conditions, which are now changing. The National Arbor Day Foundation had to redraw its maps for the zones in which tree species can survive, and animals are shifting to new habitats as well. Are these gradual changes in the wild consistent with dramatic scientific assessments of a crystallizing planetary emergency? Unfortunately, yes. Present examples only hint at the scale of the planetary emergency that climate studies reveal with increasing clarity.

Our home planet is dangerously near a tipping point at which human-made

JAMES HANSEN is director of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Goddard Institute for Space Studies, but the perspectives here are his own. Hansen is also Adjunct Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences at Columbia University's Earth Institute, and he appeared in An Inconvenient Truth. He has also criticized the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change for not adequately addressing the danger of large sea level rise.

Tipping Point • 7

"Our home planet is dangerously near a tipping point at which human-made greenhouse gases reach a level where major climate changes can proceed mostly under their own momentum."

Tipping Point - Perspective of a Climatologist James Hansen

CO<sub>2</sub> Levels **Pre-industrial level** 280 ppm 2007 measured level 383 ppm **Tipping point** 450 ppm Delta 067 ppm **Current annual increase** 002 ppm 67/2 = 34Years to tipping point

**The Tipping Point** 

### Canadian Healthy Workplace



- Developed by National Quality Institute in partnership with Health Canada
- A roadmap for organizations in any sector who wish to encourage, support and offer exemplary health-related programs in the workplace
- Management of a healthy workplace is an integral part of the management of people, and the universal principles that drive successful quality practices

# Effects of Biophilic Design

 Biophilia – "the innately emotional affiliation human beings to other living organisms"

- Edward O. Wilson, "Biophilia and the Conservation Ethic", 1984

- Biophilic design emphasizes connection to the natural environment:
  - The ancestral environment



- Natural systems as the cyclical dynamics of daylight, weather, and temperature, and the annual changes of seasons and the movement of the sun.
- The more traditional definition of nature: ecosystems, trees, flowers, flora and fauna of all types, either inside or out.
- Benefits of a connection to the natural environment:
  - Increased productivity of building occupants.
  - Reduced stress, faster recovery time, and decreased use of strong painkillers.

(Source: Rocky Mountain Institute: "Introduction to Biophilia and the Built Environment")

## **Clothing & Insulation Value**

1 CLO = 0.88 (hr-ft2-°F/Btu), typical 3-piece suit



0.2 clo 0.8 clo 1.0 clo 3.0 clo

#### Activity & Metabolic Heat Production 1 MET = 18.4 Btu/ft2-hr, sedentary activity



1 met 1.4 met 3.0 met 4.0 met

# **Plotting Both:**



Advanced Comfort Modeling The UCB/CBE Comfort Model is a more sophisticated model that considers non-uniform thermal environments.



- 16 body segments, 4 layers (core, muscle, fat, and skin)
- Transient
- Blood flow model
- Heat loss by evaporation (sweat), convection, radiation, and conduction
- Clothing model (including heat and moisture transfer)
- Physiology model & comfort

# **Building of Nature**







### **Building of Nature**

#### **Climate Integration**



**Building - Site Integration** 



"Systems" Integration



### **Building of Nature**







Draper Hall Berea College, Kentucky Van Der Ryn with Steed | Hammond | Paul

### Green Rehabilitation Chicago Center for Green Technology



**Farr Associates** 





### Envelope Performance ANALYSIS TOOLS



Windows from: 118.3 Btu/sf to: 113.8 Btu/sf net: - 4.5 Btu/sf

- **3.8 %** Maximum Improvement

**BASELINE:** Assumed single pane glazing **ECM-5:** Single pane low-e coated glazing **ECM-6:** Double-pane glazing

### Envelope Performance ANALYSIS TOOLS







### **Durability & Maintainability**









### Adaptability







# **Building Life-Cycles**



How Buildings Learn What Happens After Their Built Stewart Brand

### **Building Life-Cycles**





**Traditional Wood Window** 

#### **Modern Aluminum Window**



### Life-Cycle Analysis

**Environmental Impacts of Wall Assemblies** 



### Building Stock Statistics Existing Stock by Decade Constructed

**AREA: Non-Residential Buildings** 



2003 Commercial Building Energy Consumption Survey U.S. Department of Energy

#### Projected Growth to 2030 Renovation

**AREA: Non-Residential Buildings** 



The Boom To Come – America Circa 2030 Architect Magazine, October 2006

# Valuing Existing Buildings



### **Green Rehabilitation** AIA Top 10 Green

Bohlin Cywinski Jackson

California College of Arts & Crafts Leddy Maytum Stacy

#### Pittsburgh Glass Center Davis Gardner Gannon Pope





# Challenges of the Modern-era







Washington DC from 6,000 ft.



**Tysons Corner VA from 6,000 ft.** 

### Sustainable Stewardship EASTERN MARKET

#### Ventilation & Daylighting











### Sustainable Stewardship EASTERN MARKET

#### 1973 "Improvements"









#### Sustainable Stewardship EASTERN MARKET Roof with Restored Skylight



### Sustainable Stewardship EASTERN MARKET

#### **Fire Damage**







Fig. 311. Detail of Glazing in Fig. 310.

**Skylight Detail** 

#### **Pocantico Proclamation**

#### The Climate Change Imperative

Human activity has increased and accelerated global warming putting the environment at risk. It is imperative that we immediately and significantly reduced greenhouse gas emissions to begin reversing extreme climate change patterns within a generation.

#### The Economic Imperative

Our current economy is based upon unsustainable consumption and an overreliance on finite resources. A new green economy must rest upon a conservation-based foundation to manage natural and cultural resources in a sustainable and economically beneficial manner.

#### The Equity Imperative

In recent years, economic inequalities between rich and poor have grown in the United States and abroad. The disproportionate levels of resource consumption and global pollution are unsustainable. Our consumption patterns must be altered to foster social equity, cultural diversity, and survival of all species.

#### **Pocantico Proclamation**

#### **Foster a Culture of Reuse**

Maximizing the life cycle of all resources through conservation is a fundamental condition of sustainability. The most sustainable building, community or landscape is often the one that already exists. Lessons learned from historic preservation are transferable to the entire existing built and landscaped environment.

#### **Reinvest at a Community Scale**

It is not sufficient to address sustainability on a piecemeal basis through individual building projects. We must consider the larger context of the built environment: our communities. Reinvestment in existing, more sustainable neighborhoods – especially our older and historic ones – saves resources and promotes socially, culturally, and economically rich communities.

#### Value Heritage

The design of older buildings, landscapes, and communities should inform future building practices. While new green building technology offers promise for reducing the environmental harms caused by new construction, traditional building practices offer a wealth of sustainable design solutions that are premised on sensitivity to local conditions, careful siting and planning, and long-term durability, all of which provide essential models for the future.

### **Pocantico Proclamation**

#### **Capitalize on the Potential of the Green Economy**

Preservation economics provide a powerful model for shifting away from a consumption-based and energy-inefficient economy. Reinvestment in our existing built environment must become an indispensable part of America's new green economy. Per dollar spent rehabilitation activities create more new jobs than new construction.

#### Realign Historic Preservation Policies with Sustainability

Today's challenges require that historic preservation move beyond maintaining or recovering a frozen view of the past. Historic preservation must contribute to the transformation of communities and the establishment of a sustainable, equitable, and verdant world by re-evaluating historic preservation practices and policies, and making changes where appropriate.

# Valuing Existing Buildings

