

DESIGN FRAMEWORK

integrity

inspiration

"A place is not a place until people have been born into it, have grown up in it, lived in it, know it, died in it - have both experienced and shaped it, as individuals, families, neighbourhoods, and communities, over more than one generation. Some are born in their place, some find it, some realise after long searching that the place they left is the one they have been searching for. But whatever their relation to it, it is made a place by slow accrual, like a coral reef."

WALLACE STEGNER

definition

in-teg-ri-ty *n.* 1. adherence to moral principles; **honesty**. 2. the quality of unimpaired; **soundness**. 3. **unity**; **wholeness**. [from Latin *integritas*.]

More often than not I associate integrity with those that transcend the human condition through their words and deeds. As a consequence I think of individuals, single profound individuals who by the manner in which they conduct their lives improve the connectivity of the human race. The lives of these individuals expose the possibilities of the human race and reconnect us to that which is true. I believe that we can get this same inspiration from the environment around us but often it is much more difficult for us to see. The discipline of ecology is helping to address this difficulty.

Gandhi taught, "Be the change you want to see in the world." To behave, to act out, to live that which you believe is true is integrity made manifest. I have included integrity in the design framework because I think it is important to consider the connectivity of our designs - how they re-connect us with the natural world, with the spiritual realm, with other people and communities of people, and with ourselves. Integrity implies health so these connections would be an improvement on current conditions.

precedent

The opportunity to develop farm programs at UBC that demonstrate integrity and leadership is an exciting possibility. Imagine on-campus farm programs that support the increasing commitment to sustainability and health - what currently is taught in the classroom, written about in articles or delivered in speeches can now be done locally, demonstrated and revealed. We can now practice what we preach.

I have selected three precedents that embody the definition of integrity. Each speak to the commitment that their respective communities have for "walking the talk" - the Adam J. Lewis Center for Ecological Studies to living education, Village homes to ecological community living, and Beech Hill Farm to integrated educational organic farming. Each precedent suggests possibilities for improving the manner in which we exist on this planet. The manner in which this is done is hopeful, exciting and exemplary. Each one is interesting, informative, and beautiful. They are living, tangible examples of what ecological living can be like.

The Adam J. Lewis Center for Environmental Studies Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH



The Adam Joseph Lewis Environmental Studies Center, opened in early 2000, is designed to serve as a living laboratory and model of sustainable architecture. It was designed to give all Oberlin students and faculty and the larger community the opportunity to work in and with a building that represents the most advanced knowledge and practice in sustainable design. Students and faculty were also involved in the planning and design of this building and many more will be involved in modifying and enhancing the technologies and design strategies they find there. The idea is to provide a facility that supports the investigation and learning required for reducing the human footprint on the earth.

Although the Environmental Studies Center sits within a college campus, it's exemplary qualities in the area of sustainable design and education will undoubtedly have a great influence on the international community. The Center is a tremendous example of the prestige, influence and energy that a new and innovative sustainable development can create. Through its very existence the Adam Joseph Lewis Environmental Studies Center challenges students and society to become active builders of sustainable community.

Village Homes is a 27 ha, 242-unit mixed-use residential development located on the outskirts of Davis, California. Initiated in the early 1970's by local graduate students in an effort to create a local sustainable residential development that embodied the ideals of the garden city. In spite of numerous roadblocks Michael and Judy Corbett, the eventual designers and developers of this project, were able to realise the creation of this project, which remains a leading international example of sustainable residential development.

Village Homes includes a number of innovative features. The community is structured to maximise solar orientation allowing for the possibility of solar heating and energy production. Agriculture is integrated within the community with 7.5 ha set aside for cultivation. A variety of home types and sizes accommodate a variety of family incomes, sizes and types. Reduced street widths, the elimination of thru-streets and the inclusion of backyard travel corridors and common areas add to the feeling of community. A central drainage system that includes swales, creeks and ponds takes care of runoff. Community facilities include childcare, a swimming pool, restaurant and business centre.



Village Homes
Davis, CA



Beech Hill Farm College of the Atlantic Bar Harbour, ME

College of the Atlantic's Beech Hill Farm is located off-campus and includes approximately 2 ha of diversified, certified organic farmland, several acres of heirloom apple trees, 30 ha of managed forest land, a barn, farmhouse, farmstand, outbuildings, and greenhouses. The farm was donated to the College by alumni in May of 1999. It has become an integral and highly valued facility of the College. COA is currently in the process of using this facility to preserve working local farmland and create a hands-on educational resource for students, farmers, and community members.

COA is committed to managing the Beech Hill Farm as a working, sustainable organic farm that provides fresh produce for the campus cafeteria and continues to serve local customers through wholesale accounts and a retail farmstand. The College's students, staff, faculty, and farm managers work collaboratively to meet the farm's threefold goal of demonstrating local and sustainable food production, and good land management and providing applied education opportunities.



challenge

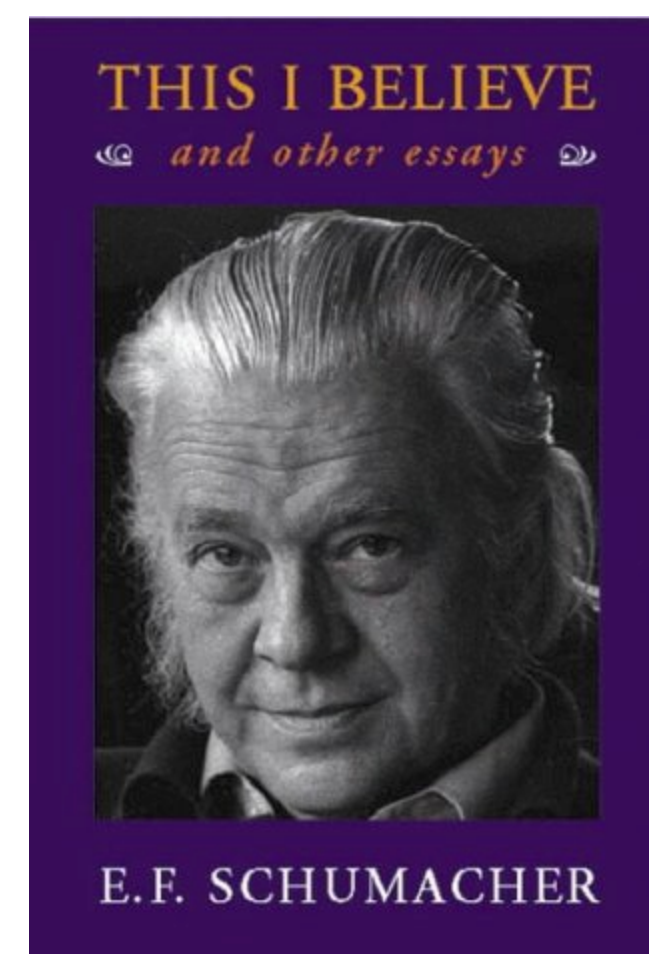
To support the creation of an integral community that connects body and spirit to the land, the University, Vancouver and beyond.

approach

1. Demonstrate respect and humility in the use of Creation.
2. Design with nature in a manner that supports or improves health and well-being.
3. Reveal and explore the benefits of integrating agroecological systems within communities.
4. Establish and maintain local, regional, national, and international connections with ecologically orientated institutions.
5. Look to nature as model and mentor.
6. Demonstrate and support beneficial leadership in the area of agroecology and integral systems design.

... we can, each of us, work to put our own inner house in order. The guidance needed for this work cannot be found in science or technology, the value of which utterly depends on the ends they serve; but it can still be found in the traditional wisdom of mankind.

E.F. SCHUMACHER



...I aspire downward. Flyers embrace the air, and I'm a man who needs something to hug. All my dawns cross the horizon and rise from underfoot. What I stand for is what I stand on.

WENDELL BERRY from "Below"



UBC SOUTH CAMPUS FARM

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

VANCOUVER, BC

Design Framework

DRAWING 7

base::design::detail D. MASSELINK 01.2001