

<u>WEEK</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>LECTURER.</u>
①	- M. SEPT. 25 - W. SEPT. 27	INTRO. TO THE THEORY.	C. ALEXANDER
2	- M. OCT. 2 - W. OCT. 4	THE STRUCTURE OF PATTERNS. H.DAVIS. HOW PATTERNS ARE GENERATED?	C. ALEXANDER
3	- M. OCT. 9. - W. OCT. 11.	WHAT ARE GOOD PATTERNS? ACTUALIZATION OF PATTERNS.	C. ALEXANDER H. DAVIS.
4	- M. OCT. 16. - W. OCT. 18.	DESIGN PROCESS. (MULT SERVICE CENTER EXAMPLE)	C. ALEXANDER.
5	- M. OCT. 23. - W. OCT. 25.	SCIENTIFIC GENERATION OF PATTERNS. MEXICALI PROJECT	H. DAVIS. C. ALEXANDER.
6	- M. OCT. 30 - W. NOV. 1.	I. GEOMETRY a. MIRROR OF THE SELF. II. GEOMETRY b. PROPERTIES.	C. ALEXANDER
7	- M. NOV. 6. - W. NOV. 8	III. GEOMETRY c. CENTERING. CHANGES IN ARCH. FIELD.	C. ALEXANDER H. DAVIS.
8	- M. NOV. 13. - W. NOV. 15.	BUILDING PROCESS. ROLE OF ARCHITECT.	H. DAVIS. C. ALEXANDER.
9	- M. NOV. 20. - W. NOV. 22.	BUILDING CONSTRUCTION. PEOPLE REBUILDING BERKELEY.	H. DAVIS.
10	- W. NOV. 29 - DEC. 1	LARGE SCALE CONSTRUCTION. (ISRAELI EXAMPLE) SUMMARY - CONCLUSION	C. ALEXANDER

GAP 6/26/60

8/2/81

Lecturer: Chris ALEXANDER

## INTRODUCTION TO THE THEORY

Two main questions will be dealt with:

1. what are the constituents of the structure of the environment?
2. How is this structure generated?

◆ The whole approach taken in these lectures and with the theory of Patterns is  
**"GENERATIVE."**

This means that:

1 → AT each step what is significant is the human, Social, individual process which generates the Structure.

AND:

2 → What kind of process produce the stuff and make it GOOD?

~♦~ The answer to this question is specific and is in a way the whole achievement of this theory which is to recognize the fact that:

The Processes :: Mental, Creative, Industrial, Fiscal, Physical, etc...) which produce "GOOD" structures, are different **IN KIND** from the ones that produce bad ones.

~♦~ Once you recognize that very clearly and are able to be highly specific about it ~ Then: able to set in motion those processes which are capable of making things good.

~♦~ **WHAT GOOD ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?**

→ THE FUNDAMENTAL GOOD.

The essence of it:

There exists a certain quality which is capable of being a touchstone or a criteria to all our decisions about what is relatively better or worse.

❖ This "Quality without a name"

- Can characterize anything; a sail boat, a frog or a city.
- It can exist to a greater or a lesser degree.
- IT exists in ourselves as well - experienced when suddenly for a moment we feel completely ourselves.
- IT happens more easily when one is in love.
- When one feels being alive or being very true in oneself.

"Many teachings in the world are concerned mainly with the development of this quality in a person - of these Zen Buddhism is the most well-known. Many of the mystical branches of Religion are concerned with the conditions under which this could happen and try to help a person to get into a state where this is happening more often."

- Most of the time, we prevent ourselves from this, because we have our heads full of Images: of good conduct, of what to do; of what we are, what we want to be. These conditions occur when we let go of all of this and not really worried about anything. (It could happen when one is trying to catch a bus, eating a piece of bread and cheese, or a cat stretching out.)

❖ The Slides:

- A few are of such moments in our lives.
- Many are of buildings which have this Quality.

Wed. Sept. 27. 78

◆ IN NATURE - IT IS COMPLETELY TRUE TO ITSELF AND COMPLETELY FREE IN ITSELF.

→ NATURE IS NOT DISTORTED BY IMAGES AND ITS PRODUCTION IS A PROCESS WHICH IS SIMPLY HAPPENING.

→ WE ARE MORE COMPLEX AND HAVE THE CAPACITY TO DISTORT OURSELVES WITH IMAGES.

→ ONE COULD SEE THE QUALITY IN ANOTHER PERSON AND FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH THAT PERSON. SAME AS IN A PLACE.

◆ MANY OF THE PICTURES ARE OF TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS. IT SO HAPPENS THAT THIS QUALITY IS MORE EVIDENT IN TRADITIONAL BLDGS.

◆ WHAT IS ~~EXAGGERATED~~ VISIBLE IN THESE PICTURES IS LIFE.

1 → WHAT WE ARE CONCERNED WITH IS THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH WE CAN PLAY A PART TO BRING THIS INTO EXISTENCE.

2 → WE HAPPEN TO BE CONCERNED WITH BUILDING.

3 → UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS DO YOU PRODUCE BUILDINGS WHICH HAVE LIFE IN THEM?

[ONE OF THE REASONS THIS IS NOT HAPPENING IS BECAUSE PEOPLE ARE NOT ASKING THEMSELVES THIS QUESTION.]

(FINALE)

THIS QUESTION IS FUNDAMENTAL. RECOGNIZABLE WHEREVER IT OCCURS, UNDER CONDITIONS IN WHICH PART OF THE STUFF ~~OF~~ THE WORLD IS MADE. SOMEHOW LOSES ITSELF.

