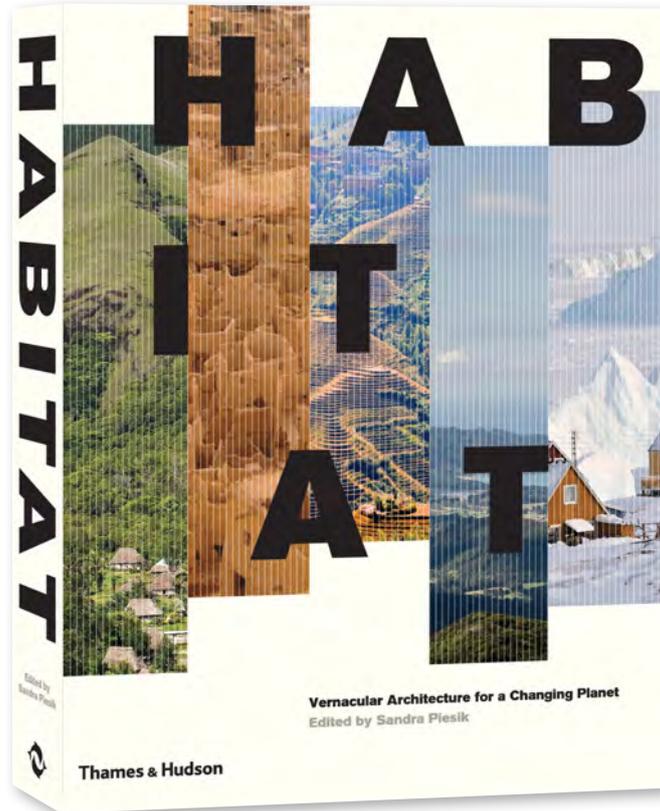


A landmark publication that celebrates humanity's age-old ability to create buildings that are ingeniously adapted to their cultural and environmental conditions, providing enduring lessons for living today

Sandra Piesik is an architect and a researcher specializing in technology development and transfer. She has led successful research, development and deployment studies on the adaptation of date palm leaf architecture for modern use, which resulted in an award-winning project endorsed by the UNCCD and the book *Arish: Palm-Leaf Architecture*.

c. 1,000 illustrations
36.0 x 28.0 cm
600pp
ISBN 978 0 500 343241
October
£98.00



Habitat

Vernacular Architecture for a Changing Planet

Edited by Sandra Piesik

Climate change is the biggest challenge facing our planet. There has never been a more important time to understand how to make the best use of local natural resources and to produce buildings that do not rely on stripping the environment or transporting materials across the globe.

The culmination of years of specialist research, this once-in-a-generation publication gathers together an international team of over one hundred leading experts across a diverse range of disciplines to examine what vernacular architecture and its regional craftspeople can teach us about creating a more sustainable future. Organized by the five major climate zones – polar, temperate, tropical, desert and continental – and more than eighty countries worldwide, it reveals how people and cultures have adapted to their environment to make the best use of indigenous materials and construction methods, and stresses the importance of preserving disappearing techniques and local knowledge before it is too late.

Including contextual essays on issues ranging from climatology to anthropology and economics; a detailed reference section; specially commissioned maps and infographics; and a wealth of illustrations, this ambitious publication is a testament to humankind's resilience and ingenuity in a rapidly changing world, and an invaluable resource document for the future generations who will shape our built environment.

58

'A welcome contribution to our awareness of the current state of vernacular architecture, and a timely reminder of how, in future, we ignore its significance at our cost' **André Singer**,
Royal Anthropological Institute

'Celebrates the value, the beauty and the collective ingenuity of vernacular architecture' **Jim Coleman and Henry Fletcher**,
BuroHappold Engineering

'Impressive ... a fascinating trip across the richness of local knowledge about materials and construction techniques developed over thousands of generations'
Tomasz Chruszczow, the Subsidiary Body
for Implementation of the UN Framework
Convention on Climate Change

Habitat

Vernacular Architecture for a Changing Planet

Edited by **Dr Sandra Piesik**

Publication: 5 October 2017

Climate change is the biggest challenge facing our planet. There has never been a more important time to understand how to make the best use of local natural resources and to produce buildings that connect to ecosystems and livelihoods and do not rely on stripping the environment or transporting materials across the globe.

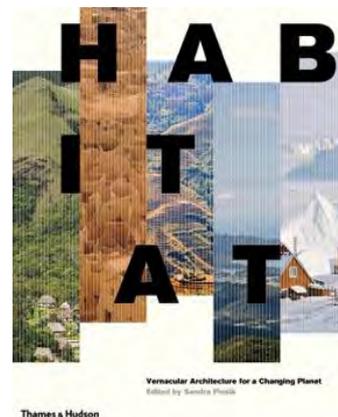
The culmination of years of specialist research, *Habitat: Vernacular Architecture for a Changing Planet*, a once-in-a-generation large format publication, gathers together an international team of more than one hundred leading experts across a diverse range of disciplines to examine what the traditions of vernacular architecture and its regional craftspeople around the world can teach us about creating a more sustainable future.

With over 1000 illustrations and organised by the five major climate zones, covering polar, temperate, tropical, desert and continental, and more than eighty countries worldwide, the book reveals how people and cultures have adapted to their environment to make the best use of indigenous materials and construction techniques, and stresses the importance of preserving disappearing craftsmanship and local knowledge before it is too late.

Including contextual essays on issues ranging from climatology to anthropology and economics; a detailed reference section; specially commissioned maps and info-graphics; and a wealth of illustrations, this landmark publication is a celebration of humankind's resilience and ingenuity in a rapidly changing world, and an invaluable resource document for the future generation who will shape our built environment.

Contents : Foreword by Tomas Chruszczow UNFCCC • Introduction by Dr Sandra Piesik • General Essays on climate, geology, botany, anthropology and economics by Dr Catherine Souch, Dr Graham Lott, Dr William Milliken, Dr André Singer, Professor Jim Coleman and Henry Fletcher • Tropical • Dry • Temperate • Continental • Polar • Appendix 1: Contemporary Vernacular • Appendix 2: Natural Disasters • Appendix 3: Materials Science

Dr Sandra Piesik is an architect and a researcher specialising in technology development and transfer. Creator of several multidisciplinary research groups and consortia, actively engaged in the global climate change action. Founder of Habitat Coalition and a director of 3 ideas Ltd, leading several pilot projects endorsed by UNCCD and UNFCCC. Piesik is the author of *Arish: Palm-Leaf Architecture*, also published by Thames & Hudson.



Extent

600pp

Size

36.0 x 28.0 cm

Illustrations

c. 1000 illustrations

Binding

Hardback

ISBN: 978 0 500 343241

Press Contact:

Kate Burvill, KBPR

E: Kateburvill@gmail.com

M: 07947 754717

T: 020 7226 7824

www.thamesandhudson.com