



THE
LIBRARY
OF
RADIANT
OPTIMISM

THE LIBRARY OF RADIANT OPTIMISM FOR LET'S REMAKE THE WORLD

We started the library as way to gather, look at, and catalog a groundswell of optimistic and visionary activities in the late 1960s and early 1970s. We had discussions about the similarities between a handful of books we knew of, and the culture of Mess Hall, an experimental cultural center in Chicago that we were active in for over four years. Mess Hall is organized around an “economy of generosity,” freely sharing information and materials. The books are important precursors to Mess Hall, embracing the grass roots exchange of information and themes of self and community empowerment. These books are written from the counter-culture. Their authors were interested in communicating their direct experience as it related to their experiments for living in harmony with the natural landscape, building sustainable communities, and so on. We were excited to read about practical applications of optimistic ideas for radical change, and to continue putting our own ideas into this tradition.

There are parallels between the cultural and political climate of the 1970s and current global conditions. However, we feel that an important difference is in the absence of a massive counter-cultural movement for change. We face many of the same problems – large-scale ideological wars, energy crises, environmental devastation, destructive global capitalism and more. The hopeful quality of these books encourages us in developing a movement of our own, in the form of how-to manuals with the explicit intent of building a new society of optimistic resistance. This gives us hope as we go through our experiments; some things will not work, but the diversity of investigations in living creatively means that more possibilities for intelligent solutions will appear.



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Inside back cover: Detail of letter made of paper and wood glue

Back cover: Detail of wooden pedestal picture on page 20

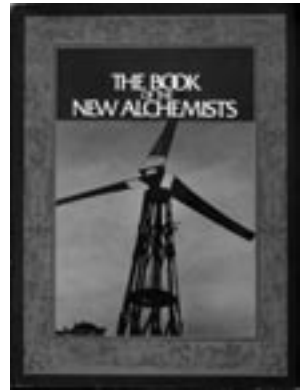


THE BOOK OF THE NEW ALCHEMISTS

Edited by Nancy Jack Todd, E. P. Dutton, 1977, 174 pages, paperback, ISBN: 0-525-47465-X

A few years ago, a small group of artists, scientists, and thinkers concerned about the rapidity of the Earth's destruction and the impending disintegration of social and moral values, joined together to form an organization with a name of peculiar significance for our time. – The New Alchemy Institute

The Book of the New Alchemists is a document of a living experiment begun in 1969 by a group of people concerned with what they saw as an approaching ecological crisis. Eschewing the unsustainable in the dominant culture, they chose to drop out and create a micro-culture and economy with their own radical methods. This book is a document of their optimistic experiment in self-reliance.



We like this book because it has important analyses of the dangers of pesticide use on crops, beginner's accounts of composting, poems, manifestos, and a chapter on women and ecology. It provides loads of information on how to build your own bio-shelters and aquaculture systems. Their analysis of the human relationship to the earth, presented in a personal and direct manner are interspersed with art and poetry to make for an engaging and unifying experience.

The New Alchemists created and documented their use of "Living Machines." Based on the environment of wetlands, Living Machines are sophisticated micro-ecosystems that do a variety of functions simultaneously. The Living Machines process human waste as food for microorganisms in water containers, the waste of the microorganisms serve as food for vegetables and fish that humans can eat. The New Alchemists used aquaculture and created bio-shelters – systems that people lived with and in – that were sensitive to the needs of the plants, animals, and environment that everything shares. This is interesting because it places humans back into the ecological cycle rather than trying to manufacture or design a solution to a problem derived from the very sources of the problem.



ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN PRIMER

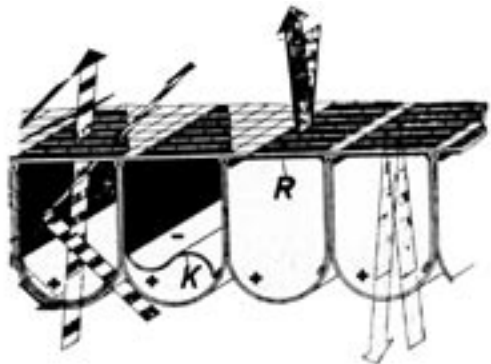
By Tom Bender, Schocken Books, 1976, 207 pages, paperback, ISBN: 0805205136



Tom Bender is an architect who was at the forefront of the sustainability movement. This book, published in 1973, is a scrapbook collection of musings, quotes, images, and philosophies culled from a myriad of sources. The book is a starting place for Bender's personal investigation of how we can live lightly, in harmony with the planet. The book is a relevant document of thoughts in the environmental and sustainability movements of today, and it is easy to get lost in the wandering collage like style of the book's design.

**WE SEEK A
LOWER STANDARD
OF LIVING FOR A
HIGHER QUALITY
OF LIFE.**

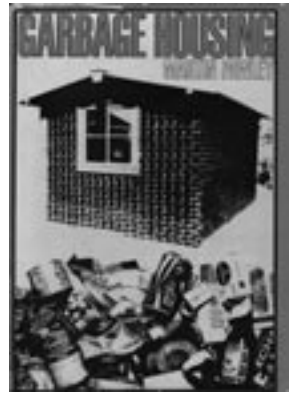
Using small amounts of energy to cause the larger flows of energy moving always through our surroundings is the basis of techniques developed in Germany by N. Leing for air-conditioning and heating pneumatic structures. With his techniques, pneumatic structures (which are notoriously hard to heat and cool) have been able to maintain freezing temperatures inside when located in a desert, and maintain normal room temperatures in the Arctic — all by merely using the sun's energy falling on the structure. Flap valves in the skin of the structure change the skin from transparent to reflective to keep the heat in or out, or to let it pass through. Similar kinds of devices, though designed for entirely different construction, have been developed by Harold Hay for heating, cooling, making ice, distilling water, etc. on the roof of a desert house.



GARBAGE HOUSING

By Martin Pawley, Krieger Publishing Company, 1975, 118 pages, hardcover, ISBN: 0470672781

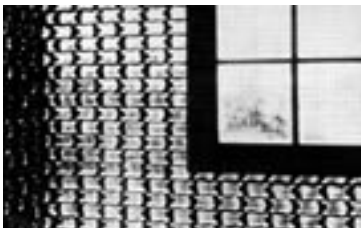
Industrialized global capitalism has failed to provide affordable housing for everyone. Yet, it is possible to get carbonated soft drinks in aluminum cans into the hands of millions of people worldwide. Martin Pawley looks at this conundrum and rightfully asks how we could let this happen. He demands that we ask more of the consumer goods we make, that we learn from them to address all the problems that our consumer culture has generated. His solution to housing crises is to build dwellings out of garbage – to design our garbage to better accommodate the housing needs of those left out of consumer society’s benefits. This book is captivating. It investigates the use of cast off materials in the slums of Chile. An entire chapter is devoted to the Heineken World Bottle (WOBO). In 1960, Alfred Heineken created the WOBO – interlocking and self-aligning bottles – to hold his well-known beer for Caribbean consumers. Once the bottle was emptied, it could be used to build a shelter. The WOBO demonstrates what Pawley refers to as “secondary use,” that is, everything we design should be made with further uses in mind.



ABOVE: A test house made from the bricks is depicted on the cover of the book.

RIGHT: The final WOBO design [top left] of which 100,000 were produced in two sizes. The bonding system [top right] used mortar with a silicone additive and the horizontal laying positions facilitated corner details [bottom left] which now came to resemble those of a traditional log cabin [bottom right]. (Garbage Housing, pp. 28-29)

BELOW: Interior view of house.



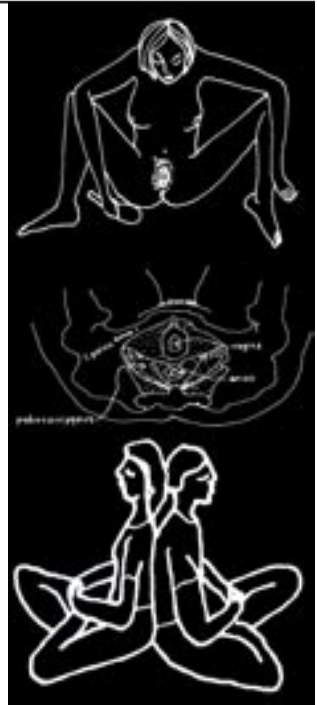
GETTING CLEAR: BODY WORK FOR WOMEN

By Anne Kent Rush, Random House, 1973, 290 pages, paperback, ISBN: 0+394-70970-5



Written from the women's liberation perspective of the 'personal is political' *Getting Clear* encourages women to get to know themselves by getting to know their bodies. It is a women's health book advocating self-education and self-healing. The book encourages the practice of yoga, massage, talk therapy, and spending time with other women to generate personal energy, which can translate into activism. Rush writes as if she is in a rap session at her women's group. It is important to note this language because consciousness-raising groups were an influential element to spreading ideas of women's liberation. Rush explains consciousness raising groups: what they are, what a typical session sounds like, and how to start your own.

The book documents a time when many women worked to generate knowledge about their bodies and their lives, thereby gaining power over the medical and political discourse surrounding their reproductive and emotional health. Rush's book operates on a personal level advocating knowing one's body to know oneself, but it also operates on a larger scale with the power of collective voices generating collective knowledge.



GUERRILLA TELEVISION

By Michael Shamberg & Raindance Corporation, Holt, Rinehart & Winston, 1971, 108 pages, paperback, ISBN: 0-03-086735-5

The Portapak revolution has arrived and You are the information! Sony introduced the Portapak video camera in 1968 and this book brings together the counter-culture's response to this new technology. Michael Shamberg was part of the Raindance Corporation video collective created to respond to the possibilities of portable video and to be an alternate culture think-tank. Raindance also published the magazine Radical Software (See page 15).



Guerrilla Television is a book about the creative potential of information exchange networks. It is perhaps the one Library book where much of its ideas are actually seen in active practice today with the rise of the Internet. It is critical of both dominant media and typical radical responses to new technology such as the hacking of broadcast networks advocated by Abbie Hoffman. "True cybernetic guerilla warfare means re-structuring communications channels, not capturing existing ones," says Shamberg. He describes a time of technological evolution, commenting on the dominant culture's attachment to the product-based economy and the 'hardware' required to produce products, we are now in a 'process-based economy' where software allows us to realize new modes of social organization and interaction. *Guerrilla Television*, on top of the information technology revolution, was an early advocate of questioning intellectual property laws, equating rigid control of information with outdated power structures preventing real cultural growth. Shamberg in the 'Meta-Manual' section of the book, writes essays about money as a leftover in the new information economy of the old product-based economy, the problems with the American edu-

cation system, the problems with print media, the rise of the service economy, and the symbioses of media to meet the demand of the information economy. Shamberg is critical of the ever-growing desire to know more, suggesting instead that to survive we ought to know differently.

Beyond critical essays in the 'Meta-Manual', the 'Manual' section contains practical ways to interact with video feedback. It contains examples from the Videofreex, People's Video Theater, and the Media Access Center, among others. Video becomes an analytical tool for interacting with the world, and like the motto for the Whole Earth Catalog that inspired Shamberg in writing *Guerrilla Television*, we need 'access to tools.'

HOW TO BUILD YOUR OWN LIVING STRUCTURES

By Ken Isaacs, Harmony Books, 1974, 136 pages, spiral bound, ASIN: B0006C58MM



This book is a beautiful guide about how to make a variety of flexible experimental indoor interiors, storage units, and a microhouse. The microhouse is a flexible creation of architect, Ken Isaacs. The modular design is based on stacked tetrahedrons, which can be moved in and around each other providing shelter and dividing living space in a creative way. The book gives you step-by-step instructions with plans

for many different versions of Isaac's original designs interspersed with ideas about simplicity, and getting rid of our personal possessions. The book is type written and spiral bound in a nice Do-It-Yourself aesthetic, and Isaacs writes in a genial manner as if he were sitting across the table from you. He muses on the philosophical meanings of surplus and uses the designs as a means of addressing life as whole; a simple place to raise a family and house extended family that has a low impact on the surrounding natural environment.



NEW STORAGE MATERIALS despite the beauty of the egg carton, I do not see absolute animal a lot of thought & work has been given to the development of storage systems which relate to Living Structures & are supportive of their systems.

STRESSED PANELS the first great switch in structural concept was the use of the universal member, the second was in the Panel Material. That seems changing from linear members to the use of stressed-skin, this plywood diaphragms, these are still distributed on a 2-D space grid. I laid the theory base for this in the beginning, the late 1940's, despite leaving a trail of people with beet ears in my wake all that time, I hadn't really built much using this principle until the gain was obvious, plywood is a strong material with equalized strength due to the overlapping layers. It is really durable.

ELIMINATION OF FRAMING extra complications caused by having both covering panels & framing lumber in a structure are tremendous cost & fabrication difficulties are increased & units are harder to take down & move. Changing to the stressed panels simplifies the process considerably & allows beautiful structures

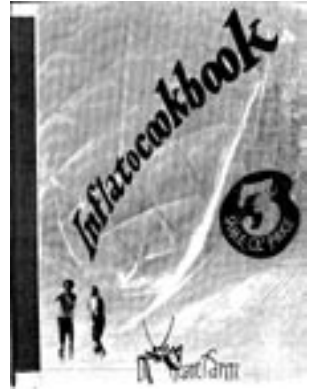


DOBBEDRON BREAKOUT that summer of the easy change I worked on a 40' dobedron chamber with photo images inside. It was made of light plywood without lumber framing & joined by modified angle clips with stove bolts. We started clipping panels together in 1960 when Jim built an early 40' Microhouse with tarrete in a little timber frame at Groveland, but that was made of 2x4 plywood so it was FAR too heavy to produce the advantages of diaphragm structures. The dobedron was good, the structure was light, quick & direct to make & forgiving in assembly (panels were easy to built together.) no handles if the plywood warped a little, it all just straightened out & fell together. It was another new world.

INFLATOCOOKBOOK

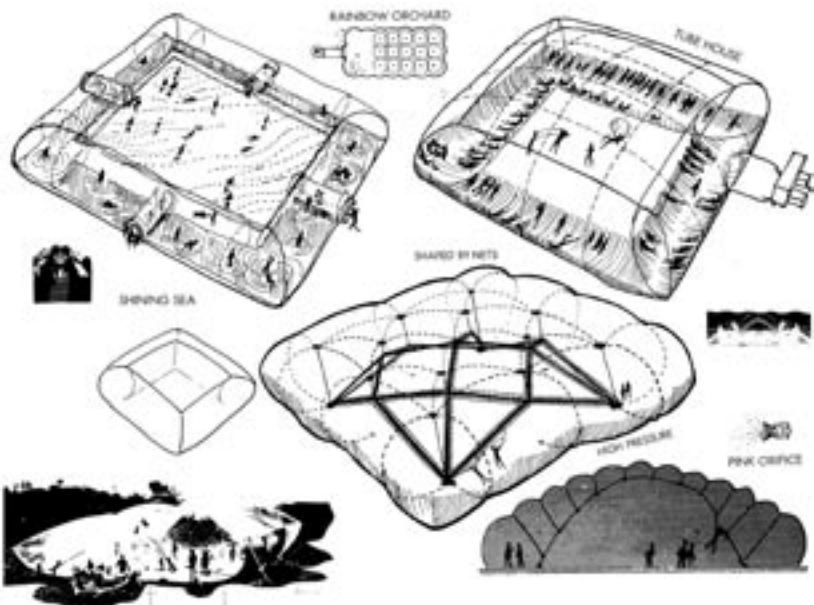
By Ant Farm, self-published, 1973 (second edition), paperback

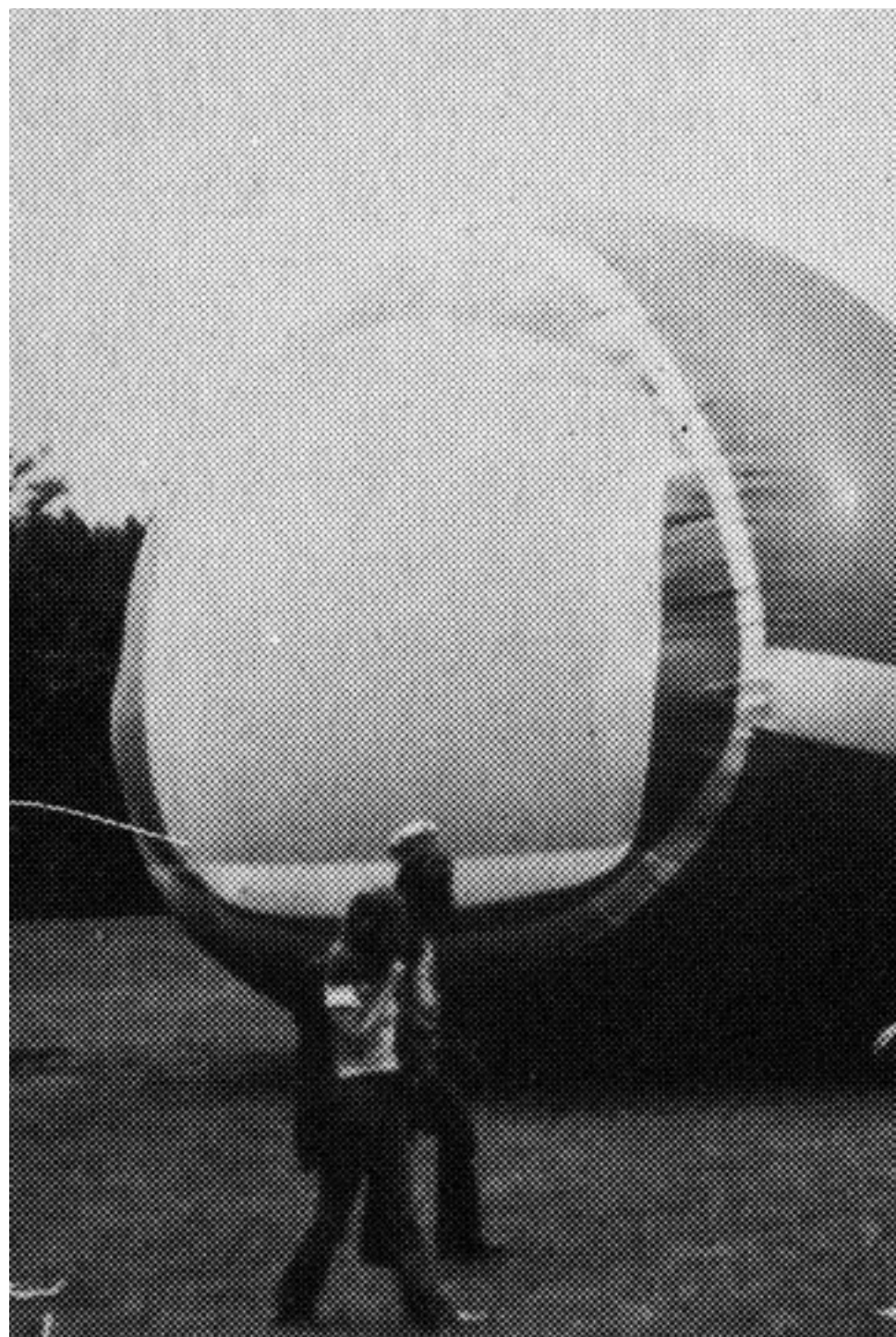
According to Ant farm, inflatable structures can be used for creating temporary environments that serve as practical shelters from the elements, or more whimsical interactive spaces, and in some cases as both. Ant Farm began as an experimental think tank of architects to create new ways of designing shelters. They are better known now for the use of video in documenting their work, like *Media Burn* (1978), where they drove a Cadillac into a tower of burning televisions.

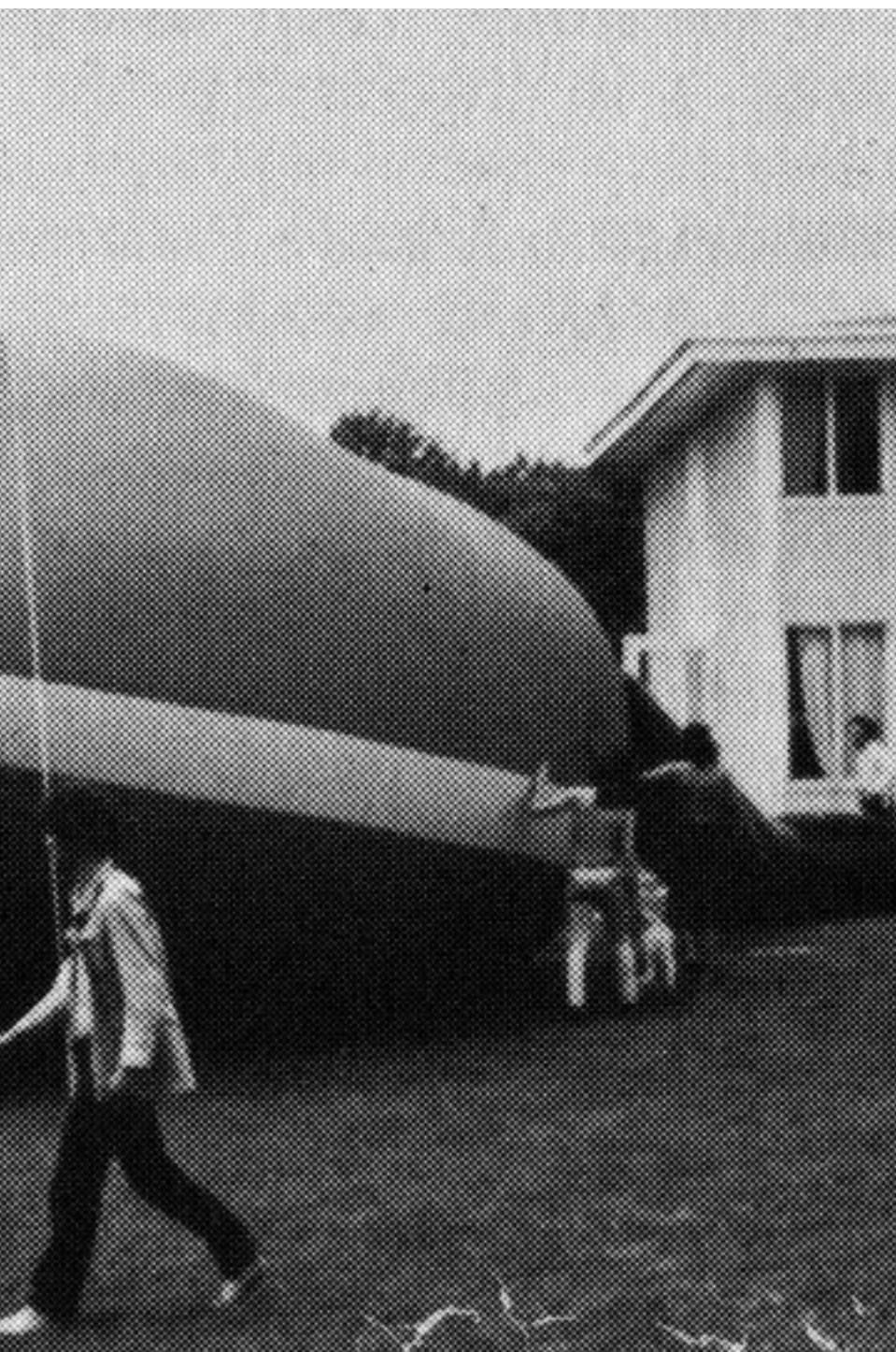


The *Inflatocookbook* is a great example of a self-published how-to book opening up the information for inflatable structures to anyone who wants it. Ant Farm starts readers out with the basic concept of how to fill a plastic bag with air and moves up from there. Their detailed floor plan for the 'The World's Largest Snake' inflatable media center in the shape of a giant rattle snake, is a fantasy idea of where the combined sensibilities of radical architecture and interactive media could go. The book is a useful combination of fantasy and technical information for exactly what materials you will need to get going on making your own inflatable structures.

Download the book here: www.letsremake.info/inflatocookbook.pdf

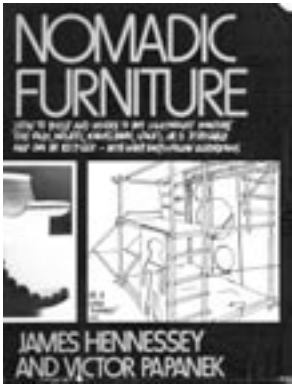






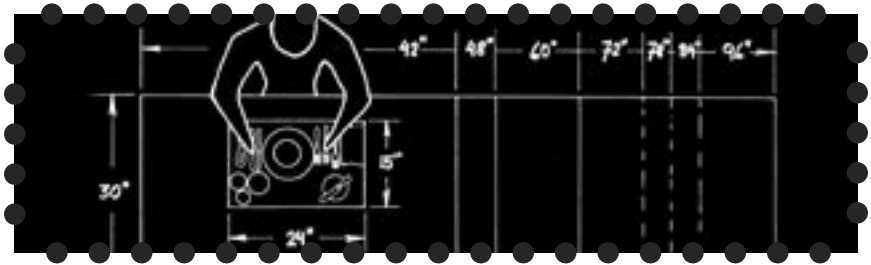
NOMADIC FURNITURE

By Victor Papanek, Pantheon, 1973, 149 pages, paperback, ISBN: 039470228X

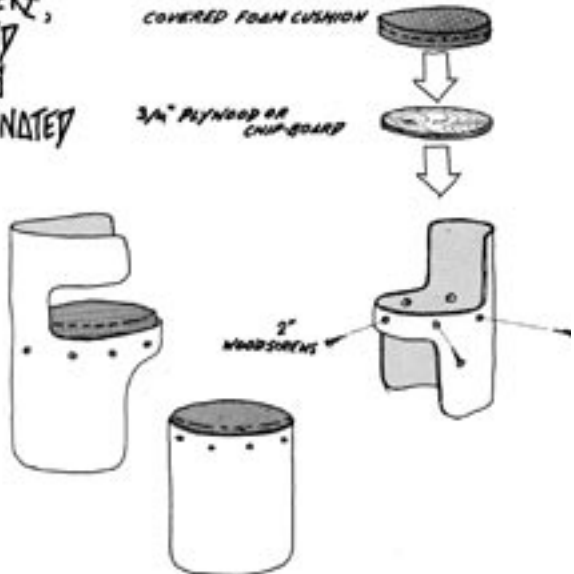


Nomadic Furniture is a simple how-to book based on conscious design and creative materials. A design professor and an industrial designer wrote the book for those with a modern nomadic lifestyle. Much of the designs in this book are made with cardboard, light wood, or innovatively reused materials. All the designs are economical and creative. The authors relate their own experiences with the use of the designs, as well as how one might incorporate them in day-to-day life.

The book covers everything from how to make a bed to building a child's car seat from cardboard. It provides detailed measurements and descriptions of the tools you will need to build the items in the book.



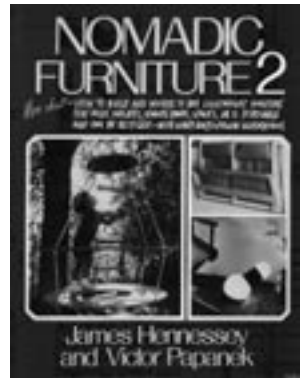
IN 1968 WERNER MAERZ,
OF GERMANY, DESIGNED
A SET OF CHAIRS & STOOLS
MADE OF TUBULAR LAMINATED
PLYWOOD SECTIONS.
WE HAVE SIMPLIFIED
THESE AND ADAPTED
THEM TO BE
MADE OF CARDBOARD
OR FIBRE TUBING.
DIAMETERS FROM
12 TO 30 INCHES ARE
APPROPRIATE.



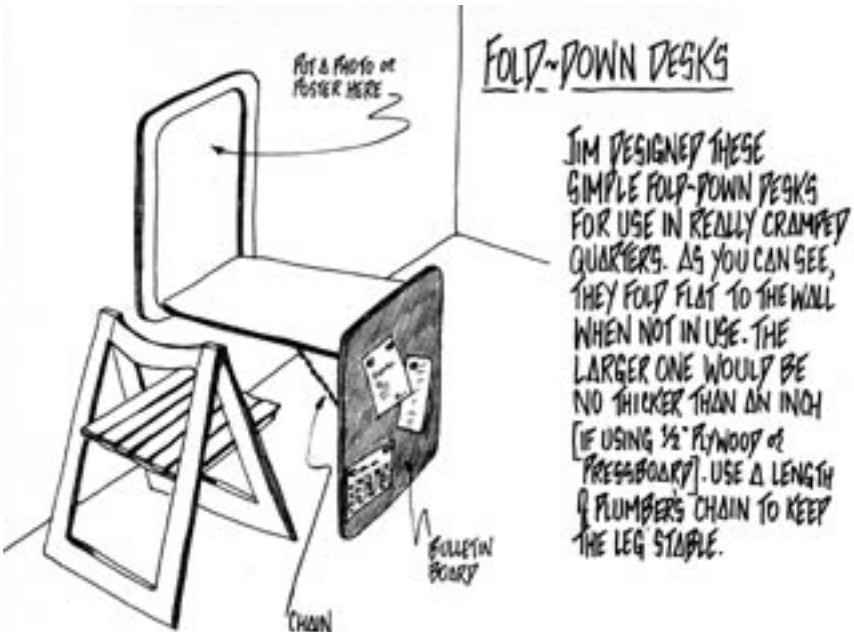
NOMADIC FURNITURE 2

By James Hennessey and Victor Papanek, Pantheon, 1974, paperback, 153 pages, ISBN: 978-0394706382

The second volume of *Nomadic Furniture* is every bit as engaging as the first. This volume contains projects from hanging lamps to kitchen tools to various kinds of folding and adjustable chairs. Highlights include instructions on how to make playgrounds from old car tires as well as elaborate and abstract rope and wood tree houses for children. The authors of both volumes want readers to make the projects in the books as well as use them for inspiration on original creative projects. They even provide many blank pages at the end of each volume to make your own notes.



WE DEDICATE THIS BOOK TO ALL OF YOU WHO ARE STILL CHOOSING INSTEAD OF THINKING YOU KNOW, TRAVELING INSTEAD OF FEELING YOU HAVE ARRIVED, FINDING YOURSELVES INSTEAD OF GETTLING DOWN.



A PATTERN LANGUAGE — TOWNS • BUILDINGS • CONSTRUCTION

By Christopher Alexander et al, Oxford University Press, 1977, 1171 pages, hardcover, ISBN: 978-0-19-501919-3



A Pattern Language came out of research done primarily at the Center for Environmental Structure at the University of California, Berkeley, with supplements from international researchers. The authors hope the book will “lay the basis for an entirely new approach to architecture, building, and planning, which [they] hope replace existing ideas and practices entirely.” The book was written over eight years and encompasses many of the themes contained in the Library as a whole: collective living, self-education, environmental design, and communities of all ages. The titles of some of our favorite chapters are: “Network of Learning”; “Old People Everywhere”; “Children in the City”; “Common Land”; “Adventure Playground”; “Sleeping in Public”; “Hierarchy of Open Space”; and “Light on

Two Sides of Every Room.”

The architects and urban planners who wrote this book examined patterns in city spaces, housing design and social interactions. The book is based on their findings, with hope that people would use the patterns to re-build their own lives. They want readers to use the patterns as guides for bringing about changes through the creation of new spaces and new ways of interacting socially.

The book is thorough in its examination of the organizational structures of modern human society. It moves from states and towns down to the amount of windows a room should have for proper harmony in living. It covers most aspects of the built environment. The author’s hope not that people will presume these patterns are a law unto themselves, but use them as a template for self-education to build the way they want to live rather than relying on professional architects and planners.



81 SMALL SERVICES WITHOUT RED TAPE*

Departments and public services don’t work if they are too large. When they are large, their human qualities vanish; they become bureaucratic; red tape takes over.

PEDAL POWER IN WORK, LEISURE, AND TRANSPORTATION

By James C. McCullagh, Rodale Press, 1977, 144 pages, paperback, ISBN: 978-0878571789

This book is a fascinating overview of the history of pedal power, used in building ancient monuments, personal transportation, pumping water from wells and pumping air for deep sea divers, grinding grain, spinning yarn, and more. The authors present the background material as inspiration for modern applications. They ask us to return to simpler technology to do some of today's mechanized tasks. To this end, there are many detailed plans on how to adapt electrically powered tools and devices to pedal power. With the author's instructions, you can make a pedal-powered television or generate electricity for your home, and there are at least two varieties of pedal-powered washing machines. More whimsical are the instructions for making a bicycle that you can ride on railroad tracks. However, there are some rather ridiculous ideas too, the most absurd being the two-person pedal-powered plow. You can see the futility and inefficiency of the device in the illustrations. The varieties of creative uses, practical and impractical, for energy generated from pedal power make this book so terrific.

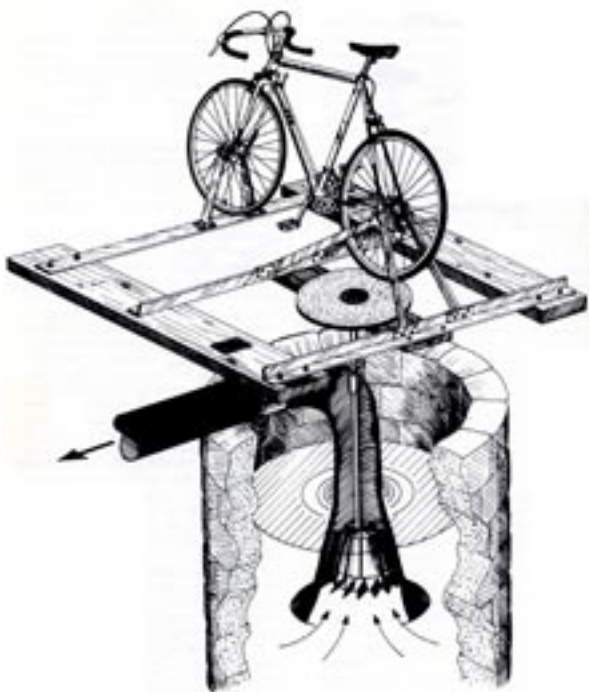
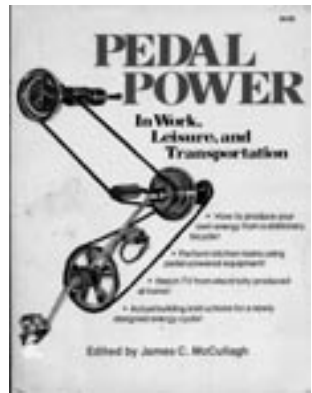


Figure 8-8. Acid water pump (artist's rendition)

RADICAL SOFTWARE, “THE TV ENVIRONMENT,” VOLUME 2, No. 2

Edited by Beryl Korot and Ira Schneider, Gordon and Breach, 1973, 64 pages, stapled binding



The magazine Radical Software was a project created by Beryl Korot and Phyllis Gushuny in 1970. It was a grassroots effort to provide a critical stance on the way information was disseminated. The Raindance Foundation, of Guerilla Television, a loose collective of video producers, ultimately became responsible for the publication after the first issue.

The second issue “The TV Environment,” edited by Ira Schneider and Beryl Korot, focuses on the TV watchers, TV salesmen, TV servicemen, and the content – who and what is on TV. The contents of this publication are presented in a collage fashion, combining photos taken directly from the television screen with interviews, a reader can see images of

popular television personalities next to a housewife who consumes these programs. This aesthetic decision creates a visual example of how the folks at Radical Software, hoped to break down the hierarchies of information dissemination with their ‘feedback’ loop.

Some of the highlights in this issue include an interview with Louis Priven about his favorite television programs, which include all the cartoon shows he can watch before his bedtime at 7:30pm, and quotes from televangelists, including a young Jerry Falwell (one of television’s most hateful, divisive Christian voices), who is happy to welcome TV viewers to a Sunday School blessing. Don’t forget to check out the ‘behind the scenes’ interviews with TV salesman Bernie Eckstein, and TV serviceman George Dunn. This is early do-it-yourself media analysis at its best.

All the issues of Radical Software can be downloaded at www.radicalsoftware.org.

TALK SHOWS



The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson

The Mike Douglas Show

RADICAL TECHNOLOGY

Edited by Peter Harper, Godfrey Boyle, and the editors of *Undercurrents*, Pantheon Books, 1976, 305 pages, paperback, ISBN: 0-394-73093-3

Divided up into seven sections – Food, Energy, Shelter, Autonomy, Materials, Communications, and Other Perspectives – *Radical Technology* is a “book about technologies that could help create a less oppressive and more fulfilling society.”

The editors are opposed to big business, and large-scale production advocating instead the power of local economies and self-education. They define technologies as tools for creating small, home, and local economies. To this end they give practical information, called ‘recipes’ about how to build things like a small scale water supply, biological sources of energy, a paper mill, textiles, housing, even shoes out of car tires to name a few.



Beyond the ‘recipes,’ *Radical Technology* also tries to illustrate the intangibles created by the use of these small-scale technologies. Clifford Harper contributes beautiful illustrations of what the social relationships that could change in this society of autonomy might look like on an everyday basis. The editors comment on the difficulty and the importance of showing the intangibles, because however easy it is to give instructions for building a machine to harness wind power or start an organic garden, it is another to show reasons why to do it. The book articulates this as a difference between hardware-tools, machines, etc., and software-‘social and political structures, the way people relate to each other and to their environment, etc.’

Fig. 24. Scale dome designed by John Shoen. The smallest autonomous unit ever conceived! (From Shoen 1971.)



One of our favorite articles in the book was the “house, which generates its own energy.” *Radical Technology* offers great ideas for environmentally sustainable design, and the house is one of them. Found in the Autonomy section of the book, it is a response to the ecological crisis with a way to have control, through design, over large-scale resource depletion. This section articulates an important theme running throughout the book: “For many people, autonomous houses represented the technical realization of the political or existential autonomy that is ...not just having legal or social control over one’s destiny but having one’s hands on the hardware.” The authors consider both rural and urban living in their discussion of environmentally sustainable shelters.

Radical Technology “[encompasses] much that is meant by ‘alternative technology’ but sees these new, liberating tools, techniques and sources of energy as part of a restructured social order, and aims to place them directly in the hands of the community.”

SHELTER

By Lloyd Kahn, Shelter Publications, 1973, 176 pages, paperback, ISBN: 0394709918

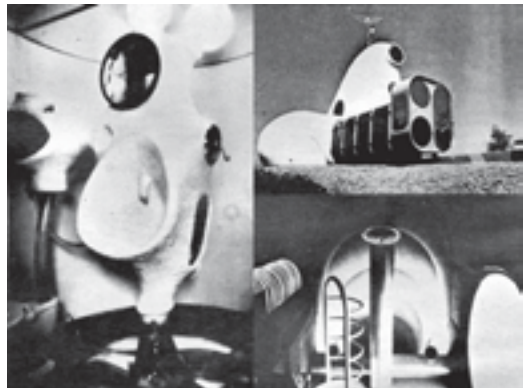


Shelter is a catalog of construction methods for living spaces from around the world. The book focuses on homes that are creatively designed, often highlighting nomadic structures, or structures that consider the ecology of place. Its pages include everything from the unbelievable Cones of Cappadocia in Turkey – homes carved into dramatic cones of rock that jut out of the earth – to the Yurts of nomadic people from Mongolia to Iran. It is both an anthropological investigation of how people houses themselves and a call to live closer to ones immediate environment. The book is a great collection of images but also includes articles with environmental builders, including tips on using found or recycled materials in the creation of your own habitat.

Famous hippie settlements like Drop City, and houses built onto the chassis of trucks or buses for easily driving from place to place, are well documented in this book. There is a lot of information about building geodesic domes – this book is clearly inspired by Buckminster Fuller and the Whole Earth Catalog (biannual from 1968-1972 and sporadically until 1998, “Its purposes were to provide education and ‘access to tools’ in order that the reader could ‘find his own inspiration, shape his own environment, and share his adventure with who[m]ever is interested.’ Wikipedia) It is an inspiring book, showing that it is possible to live with greater variety, intentionality, addressing our responsibilities to the environment with our habitats.



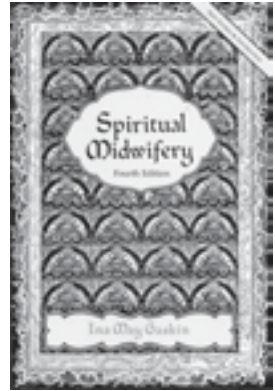
The House of the Century is what designers Doug Michels, Chip Lord, and Richard Jost call this ferro cement weekend house they built for Marilyn and Alvin Lubetkin on a small private lake near Houston, Texas. Doug, Chip and Richard were friends of the owners, and no restrictions were placed on design or construction. Said Marilyn Lubetkin: “I just knew we would get their very best...It was a trust-a total trust, and I just *knew* that it was going to be great from the beginning.” The following construction details are reprinted from the *6/5/73 Progressive Architecture*:



SPIRITUAL MIDWIFERY

By Ina May Gaskin, Book Publishing Company, 1976, 480 pages, paperback, ISBN: 1570671044

Spiritual Midwifery, now in its fourth printing, is a must read for students of midwifery but it is also an influential history of the counter culture. Ina May Gaskin and her husband Stephen Gaskin are founding members of The Farm in Summertown, TN, one of the longest running communes in the United States. The Farm was founded in 1971. Ina May published *Spiritual Midwifery* in 1975 to document the beginning of the Farm and the development of a successful out-of-hospital birth center, one of the first in the US. The book describes how the Farm was settled and how soon after there was a need for safe and secure medical care for pregnant and birthing women. The Farm midwives learned how to be midwives out of necessity. An understanding local doctor aided them along with their education. The midwives have gone on to deliver thousands of babies and are still practicing today.



The majority of the book is a collection of birth stories from the women of the Farm. The fourth edition has added birth stories from the old Amish families near the Farm whom some of the midwives worked with, and birth stories from people who came to the Farm just to give birth. The book also includes a practical section for midwifery students with how-to skills infused with the Farm philosophy of home birth.

Gaskin's writing makes this book special, particularly in the way she frames the material. Although she never set out to be a midwife, she pays close attention to the way words affect how women perceive not only labor, but also their bodies in general. In the book, she weaves a powerful history of a group of people creating their own place in the world, calmly and peacefully, and how communication through specific language and touch plays a vital part in the success of their endeavors. There are also amazing photos of women giving birth.

Lyle



aritus: When I started pushing, it was with my whole thing. With the first push, the water bag broke and got Kathryn in the face. We laughed. "See, you didn't need us to do it," the midwives said. Douglas held up a mirror for me to see my vagina and I was amazed. It looked very psychedelic, like

the big pink petals of a flower opening up. It was really beautiful. It surprised me and I felt like I had a new respect for my body.

I remembered and told everyone how the story of Buddha says he was born from a lotus blossom. Everybody, every Buddha, is born that way. Just a few pushes later he came out, all purple and yelling. He was beautiful, real strong and healthy-looking. I was really grateful to see him. I wanted to hold him right away but I still had to get the placenta out and both of us had to get fixed up. I kept looking at him. He was right there. I was awake all night, too energized to sleep, and whenever I'd think, "How is he? Is he okay?" he'd open his eyes and look at me.



SOME NOTES ON PRESENTING THE LIBRARY OF RADIANT OPTIMISM

These books were made because their authors and the communities they came from wanted to share their transformative knowledge as broadly as possible. We too want to share the books and this culture with as many people as we can. This is why we provide detailed information in this booklet and on our site about the books so you can find them yourself.



We have encountered some problems when presenting the books publicly. Some of the books are very rare; one of the rarest was taken during an exhibition in Denmark. We have decided to give public access to the books; that are in sturdy shape and easy to get a hold of. We do want people to see the other books in our growing collection. To this end, we can be contacted and will do our best to share some of the rarer, more fragile, harder to find publications.



make shelves, a pedestal (bottom image) are for making letters from waste paper and glue (middle image).

We would like to thank Dara Greenwald and Josh MacPhee who generously shared their own collection of books from this time period with us. They told us of many of the books in this publication. We would also like to thank Monika Vykoukal for giving us a copy of *Garbage Housing*. Thanks go to Heather Ault for telling us about *Getting Clear*.

Please contact us to tell us about books, see the books we have, get copies of our publications, or for any reason you want:

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A vertical photograph of a wooden plank wall, possibly made of weathered wood, with a soft pink overlay. The planks are arranged horizontally and show signs of wear, including knots and grain patterns. The pink overlay is semi-transparent, creating a layered effect. The background of the entire image is a solid, vibrant pink.

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