

**Vernacular Architecture  
for a Changing Planet.**  
Sandra Piesik + Joana Lazarova

## VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE FOR A CHANGING PLANET

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Vernacular Architecture for a Changing Planet  
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[Dr. Sandra Piesik](#) is an architect, curator, and writer specialising in technology development and transfer of natural materials, and the implementation of global sustainable legislation. Her new book, *Habitat: Vernacular Architecture for a Changing Planet*, published last month by Thames & Hudson, is "a collective contribution towards shifting sustainable development paradigms including the role of cities and the built environment on the changing planet. It includes contributions by over 140 scholars from 50 countries." The immense threat of climate change has given rise to a whole spectrum of ethical and political concerns within the realm of architecture. This book sheds light on vernacular architecture that includes a critical understanding of a building's history, providing a framework for what we can learn from ecologically coherent habitats and how we might confront contemporary realities. A collection of projects, essays, and imagery, the book presents unexplored views on architecture and creates a set of alliances which are drawn between people and places in the five major climate zones, covering tropical, desert, continental, temperate, and polar regions. "I hope that it will serve as a starting point for a new conversation about and engagement with placemaking," the author commented.

In a recent interview for UrbanNext, she provided us with more insight into her work.

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**Miyako City, Japan in 2011. Motion between the rocky plates that form the Earth's surface is not smooth. The accumulated pressure between plates can result in sudden ruptures when the two sides move, causing an earthquake.**

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