



DONALD WATSON, FAIA, CIP
EarthRise design

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Donald Watson is an architect, urban designer and planner. He is principal of EarthRise *design*, providing planning and design services for civic, institutional and urban projects, serving governmental and corporate clients in the United States and abroad, with focus upon environmental design, sustainability and resilience.

U.S. Government

U.S. Agency for International Development, U.S. HUD, U.S. EPA, DHS/FEMA (current)

International (representative listing)

United Nations Development Programme, The World Bank, U.S. Agency for International Development, Save The Children Federation, Mercy Corps International, Government of Tunisia, Development Commissions of Makkah, Al Mashaaer and Madinah, Saudi Arabia (Co-Chair International Expert Group 2009-2010), Comprehensive Planning Northern Haiti/International Development Bank (IDB) (current),

- Fellow, American Institute of Architects (FAIA)
- Certified Interpretive Planner (CIP) - National Assoc. for Interpretation (NAI)
- Certified Public Meeting Facilitator - National Charrette Institute
- National Certificate of the Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB)
- Registered architect, New York, Connecticut
- Member, various professional organizations: National Hazard Mitigation Association (NHMA), American Association of Interpretation (NAI) and Assoc. of Nature Center Administrators (ANCA)
- Subject Matter Expert (SME) *Community Planning and Building Technology* PICHTR Natural Disaster Pacific Training Center: Resilient Planning and Design for Coastal Communities.
- Regional Catastrophic Planning Team (RCPT) *Post-Disaster Sheltering/Housing Planning Team* Office of Emergency Management (volunteer member)
- Member, Conservation Commission, Town of Trumbull and town representative, Greater Bridgeport Regional Council Conservation Technical Advisory Committee (CTAC).

DESIGN WORKSHOPS

Donald Watson has served as facilitator for numerous community design workshops. Representative projects are listed below. The office maintains documentation reports of all workshops, including participant evaluations, which are available on request.

Rowayton Community Center Rowayton CT 2012

Public meetings to develop a master plan and phases of design proposals for the Commissioners of Rowayton / Sixth Taxing District of the City of Norwalk. RCC Planning Committee Chair: Robert Frazier

Hagerstown PA Sustainable Design Assistance Team (SDAT) Hagerstown PA 2006

Donald Watson served as urban design member of interdisciplinary team, selected as part of national competition by the American Institute of Architects SDAT Program. Five-day design consultation and public meetings, to propose a sustainable development plan for the city. Team Leader: Robert Shibley, FAIA.

East End Neighborhood Revitalization Zone Planning Workshop. Bridgeport CT 2005

A series of public meetings to involve citizens in community planning in Bridgeport through the Neighborhood Revitalization Zone (NRZ) process. Sponsored by the City of Bridgeport and East Side NRZ. Program manager, Mike Taylor, Vita Nuova. with Rick Lowe, community artist: Alan Plattus, Yale Urban Design Group.

Green Affordable Housing Workshop Bridgeport CT 2004

Workshop cosponsored by Bridgeport Neighborhood Trust and City of Bridgeport, providing design criteria and plan review for 200 new affordable housing. Program manager, Mike Taylor, Vita Nuova. Zane Yost, FAIA, Bill Bobenhausen, FAIA and Chris Trolle, P.E., specialist consultants.

Oklahoma City Eastside Reinvestment Area, Oklahoma City OK 2004

Following six-months preparation including series of focus groups involving over 1000 participants, a two-day "Design and Action Plan" workshop was facilitated by Donald Watson for development of consensus-based plans for the Oklahoma eastside. Sponsored by the Oklahoma City Department of Planning. Rick Lowe, community artist.

AIA/State of Connecticut Green Approaches to Public Works Projects. 2003

Design workshop for State project managers and architects, piloting design review for projects less than \$5 million, as an alternative means for achieving energy and environmental conservation. Project manager: Bruce Bockstael, Connecticut Department of Public Works. Bill Bobenhausen, FAIA and Mark Loeffler, specialist consultants.

South Troy Waterfront Revitalization Plan, Troy NY 1999 - Spring 2000

A series of four workshops including Neighborhood Visioning, and Community Design Workshops (charrettes) and public hearings to develop alternatives for South Troy. Donald Watson served as faculty advisor to RPI students and as facilitator of the charrettes. Sponsored by City of Troy. Program Manager: Margaret Irwin, River Street Planning.

Fairfield Hills Adaptive Reuse Plan, Newtown CT 1999 - 2000

In consultation with the Township of Newtown, Donald Watson facilitated public meetings and prepared a planning framework for adaptive reuse of an 185-acre site, with over 1 million square feet of existing buildings, formally a State of Connecticut Mental health Facility, leading to a Town decision to purchase and develop the site of town uses. .

Superfund Redevelopment Initiative Workshops nationwide. 1996 - 2002

Donald Watson is providing consultation and facilitation of EPA Community Stakeholder meetings for adaptive reuse of Superfund, brownfield and other impacted community sites throughout the United States. Over 125 attendees from 30 communities and 20 different states participated in the first six workshops. Cities include (partial listing): Dallas, TX, Walpole, MA South Street Superfund Site; Plaistow, NH. Program manager: Mike, Taylor, Vita Nuova.

National environmental design charrettes 1996-97

Conceived and managed by Donald Watson for the American Institute of Architects, community environmental design charrettes (workshops) were held simultaneously in twelve communities throughout the United States. The sites were linked through electronic media as a national dialog to focus upon common community and environmental issues. The publication written by Donald Watson, *Environmental Design Charrette Workbook*, describes the process of organization and facilitating such community design workshops.

Long Range Plan for Sustainable Development Waitsfield VT 1993

Donald Watson led a faculty and student team from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute for a series of public design workshops to propose options for town planning, including public parks, circulation, historic preservation and development, including a proposed skating rink, and town center.

ENERGY / ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY STUDIES (partial listing)

Donald Watson has been active in studies and proposals to improve the processes of research, innovation and early adoption of best practices in architecture. Representative studies include:

- 2008- **Pequonnock River Initiative: Watershed Management Plan.** Save the Sound and Connecticut Department of Environment (CT DEP). Donald Watson is chair of a three-Town partnership (Bridgeport, Trumbull, Monroe) in development of a comprehensive and collaborative public/private sector plan to improve water quality, environmental and community resources of the Pequonnock River Watershed.
- 2006 **Water + Design Symposium: Best practices for planning and design for water conservation and management.** Sponsored by U.S. EPA Watershed Grants Program and AIA, Donald Watson served as co-facilitator of international expert group meeting and symposium. Symposium proceedings by Daniel E. Williams and Donald Watson summarize best practice recommendations for policy makers, planners and designers.
- 2006 **Best Practices Guide: Interpretive Design of Nature Centers.** Several monographs for administrators, trustees and designers of nature centers and environmental education facilities and exhibits. Each monograph is 48 pp. ANCA publications. 2006.
- 1999 **Improving architectural practice through knowledge and research.** Proposal for the profession to adopt a cycle between research, publication and practice, similar to ASHRAE model. Architectural Research Quarterly (ARQ) Vol. 3 No. 1 1999
- 1994 **Progress in Solar Energy Technologies and Applications: An Authoritative Review.** Author of chapters on passive solar heating and cooling, daylighting and active solar heating and cooling. American Solar Energy Society, January 1994
- 1994 **Performance Based A&E Compensation.** Background and commentary on new approaches to environmentally responsible design services. Study funded by DoE and AIA Committee on the Environment. Amory Lovins, consultant. Whitepaper prepared for AIA Roundtable.
- 1994 **University-based Community Design Clinics as a National Resource.** White paper presented at ACSA Annual Meeting Special Session, convened by AIA Institute for Architectural Research.
- 1993 **A nation of sustainable communities:** leadership agenda for the environmental design professions. Position paper presented at Symposium on Sustainable Strategies for Communities AIA Committee on the Environment, Seattle WA 1993.
- 1992 **Architectural Research Needs and Opportunities in the 1990s,** Washington, DC, Convener and Chair of the Symposium sponsored by the AIA-ACSA Research Council. Principal conclusions of the symposium describe the need for an industry research forum, quality improvement of the design and building process, and cradle-to-grave analysis of building resources and infrastructure.
- 1989 **Research on Affordable Housing for Connecticut** Principal Investigator. Commission of Housing. State of Connecticut. Research on Connecticut's affordable housing program, including model practices, competitions, contracts and design prototypes.
- 1989 **Opportunities for Innovation in the United States Building Industry** outlines the need for public-private sector collaboration and consortium partnerships to advanced research and development of energy-efficient technologies, based upon market need and opportunity. This report became the basis of the Advanced Building Technology Council (above).
- 1988 **Advanced Building Consortium** 1988 proposed jointly by the American Institute of Architects, National Association of Home Builders, American Society of Heating and Air-Conditioning Engineers and the American Council of Consulting Engineers. The proposal formed a basis of the Advanced Building Technology Council, proposed by Senator Joseph Lieberman and authorized by Congress as part of Public Law 101-625, the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990. The structure of the Council is placed within the National Institute of Building Sciences and provides for public-private sector partnership to advance innovation and quality through collaborative research initiatives in the building industry.

International experience and consultancies (representative listing)

- 1981 Consultant in Building Technology and Earthquake Recovery. 30-day consultant assignment including recovery projects after 1980 Irpinia Earthquake Southern Italy. Design/construction of schools/public projects. U.S. AID/ Save The Children Federation
- 1980-90 Founding member and Director, Passive and Low Energy Architecture (PLEA). An international association of architects, planners and others. Recipient PLEA Lifetime Achievement Award. 1991.
- 1982-86 Consultant in Appropriate Technology. Save The Children USA. Four-year consultant assignments. Review of all building projects implemented by donor and U.S. AID funding in 30 countries worldwide, including design of appropriate technology centers in Philippines, Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Israel, Burkina Faso, as well as schools in Lebanon, Ache, Sri Lank, and Nepal.
- 1984-88 Consultant Xerox Corporation. Four-year consultancy. Review of major building projects in Caribbean, Mexico and Latin America. Design of selected prototype projects, Preparation and training of energy conservation and facility manuals.
- 1998 Consultant in Sustainable Development. Baku, Azerbaijan. 30-day consultant assignment. Preparation and training curriculum in sustainable development for international aid workers. Mercy Corps / U.S. U.S. AID
- 2000 Consultant in Appropriate Technology 30-day consultancy. Preparation of terms-of-reference for proposed U.S. AID funding to West Bank Communities related to clean water / waste management and other environmental infrastructure projects. Mercy Corps. / U.S. AID Mission to West Bank.
- 2009-11 Consultant and Co-Chair International Expert Group Comprehensive Planning. Two-year consultancy. Development Commissions of Makkah, Al Mashaer and Madinah, Saudi Arabia (Co-Chair International Expert Group 2009-2010). Topics combined all planning sectors, including resilience to flooding and seismic risks. United Nations / Government of Saudi Arabia.
- 2011- Subject Matter Expert (SME) in Building Technology and Community Planning. Member of faculty and lead technical advisor of education/training curriculum for Hurricane Mitigation Buildings and Communities. FEMA / Pacific International Center for High Technology Research (current).
- 2012- Consultant and Technical Editor Comprehensive Regional Plan Northern Haiti. Topics combine all planning sectors, including resilience to flooding and seismic risks. American Institute of Architects / International Development Bank (current).

Donald Watson, FAIA

Lectures and Presentations (partial listing)

** AIA CES credits

- 09-21-12 Utah Natural Hazards Legal Workshop Utah Department of Public Safety Div. Emergency Management
2 day workshop. Contact Alessandra Jorelleman, NHMA
- 06-01-12 Resilient Building Design for Coastal Communities National Disaster Preparedness Center (NDPTC)
2 day training workshop. Contact: Prof. Dean Sakamoto
- 10-06-11 New York Chapter AIA: *VisionNYC 2080: Toward a Risk-Resilient City* **
2-hour Panel. Contact: Lance Brown, FAIA, NYAIA Design for Risk and Reconstruction Committee
- 07-18-11 Disaster Management Summer Institute - University of Hawai'i *Resilient Design* **
4-hour Skype seminar. Contact: Prof. Dean Sakamoto
- 06-14-11 FEMA/AIA Second Annual Disaster Housing Summit Facilitator *Regional Catastrophic Preparedness* **
8-hour workshop. Contact: Karen Kubey, Regional Catastrophic Planning Team (RCPT)
- 06-07-11 University of Hartford Construction Institute. *Green materials and resources*
3-hour professional seminar. Contact: William Cianci, Executive Director
- 05-24-11 Featured speaker: AIA Gulf Coast Green. Houston TX. *Planning for Resilience* **
1-hour presentation. Contact: Julie Hendricks, Kirksey EcoServices
- 05-11-11 AIA Convention. New Orleans LA - WE 116 *Design for Climate Change: An Ecological Approach* **
8-hour CES workshop. Organizer: Daniel E. Williams
- 03-29-11 New York University/Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York NY. Planning for the
Unplanned. *Disaster Resilience & Reconstruction*. 3-hour panel workshop. Contact: Angel Chen
- 02-25-11 Vita Nuova Webnar *Design for Flooding* 2 hour Webnar viewable on web:
[/www.vitanuova.net/journal/2011/03/february-25-2011-design-for-flooding-html](http://www.vitanuova.net/journal/2011/03/february-25-2011-design-for-flooding-html). Contact: Michael Taylor.
- 10-05-10 Keynote: Visions AIA Connecticut Annual Conference, New Haven CT. *Green Line of Influence* **
1-1/2-hour plenary address. Contact: Diane Harp Jones, Executive Director AIA CT
- 06-09-10 AIA Convention. Miami FL *Ecological Design* **
4-hour CES workshop. Organizer: Daniel E. Williams
- 05-18-10 SOLAR 2010 Passive Solar Forum. *History of Passive Solar Design*.
2-hour panel presentation and discussion. Organizer: Douglas Balcomb. Contact: Becky Campbell-Howe,
Director of Professional Education ASES
- 10-24-09 Symposium Penn State University Environmentally Conscious Design. *Educating Future Architects*.
Contact: Prof. Lisa D. Iulo
- 04-29-09 AIA Convention. San Francisco, CA *Ecological Design* **
4-hour CES workshop. Organizer: Daniel E. Williams, FAIA
- 02-02-09 National Academy of Environmental Design. U. Florida, Tallahassee FL *Green Infrastructure*
Presentation and 8-hour workshop. Contact: Prof. Kim Tanzer, FAIA
- 11-11-08 University Lecture Oberlin College. *100-year history of Green Design*
1-1/2-hour plenary address. Contact: Carl McDaniel
- 10-30-10 SBSE Summit Carbon Neutral Design (Society of Building Science Educators). University of Wisconsin
Milwaukee WI, Facilitator 2-day Conference. Contact: Prof. James Wasley
- 10-10-08 Guest lecture Yale School of Architecture. *History of Passive Solar Design*.
1-1/2-hour presentation and discussion. Contact: Prof. Michele Addington
- 07-25-08 Presentation SBSE Retreat (Society of Building Science Educators). The New Forest, UK. *History of
Passive Solar Design*. 1-1/2-hour presentation and discussion. Organizer: Prof. James Wasley
- 05-14-08 AIA Convention. Boston MA. WE 62 *Ecological Design* **
8-hour CES workshop. Organizer: Donald Watson
- 05-02-07 AIA Convention. San Antonio TX. WE 27 *Ecological Design* **
8-hour CES workshop. Organizer: Mark Rylander