

HERITAGE FRIENDLY URBAN ENVIRONMENTS – ASSESSING PRACTICE

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ABSTRACT

At a time of growing concern for resource depletion, in particular fossil fuel, energy price increase and economic slowdown, an innovative approach to urban planning and heritage conservation makes sense.

It includes lower energy consuming urban forms, lower requirement for motorised transport, achieved through higher density urban forms and shorter distances between activities and adaptive reuse of existing building stock, while putting emphasis on urban identity and quality of life through enhancement of architectural heritage.

The presentation will illustrate implementation of these concepts through a number of case histories from different continents.

BIO

Pierre Laconte has Doctorates in Laws and in Economics from the Louvain University and is Dr h.c., Edinburgh Napier University. He was one of the three planners in charge of the Louvain University “Groupe Urbanisme Architecture”. This team was entrusted in 1969 with the planning and architectural coordination of the new university town of Louvain-la-Neuve near Brussels, along the model of the historic town of Louvain. It is now a major urban growth pole south of Brussels. It has many green features and its centre is entirely pedestrian. It received the Abercrombie Award of the International Union of Architects UIC. About his publications see www.ffue.org.