

CURRICULUM VITAE

Claire Friedlander

Claire Friedlander

76 Orbel Street

Battersea

London SW11 3NY

United Kingdom

Email: claire@thethompsons.com

Phone: (07971) 474 454

Education

Postgraduate Education - University of East London at the Centre for Alternative Technology Campus, Wales.

MSc Architecture: Advanced Environmental and Energy Studies (MscAEES)
(First Class Pass with Distinction, 2013)

Broad-curriculum Programme content Includes:

Ecosystems and biodiversity; Climate change and resource depletion; Water cycles and management; Energy conservation and generation; Materials and resources; Land use and food; Transport; Trade, economics and livelihoods; Governance and culture. Focus is on the Built Environment.

(See Appendix A)

Thesis (submitted July 2012):

Title: 'Is there Potential for the Adoption of Earth Roofs as an Appropriate Alternative to Traditional Domestic Roofs in Rural Zimbabwe?'

Participatory project and qualitative study undertaken in a rural village in Zimbabwe.

(See Abstract, Appendix B)

AutoDesk Software Training – Certified Completion, London U.K.

AutoCad 2000

AutoDesk Architectural Desktop R2i 2000

LearnIT Computer and Software Training College, San Francisco, CA. USA

Classes taken in graphics and web-design subjects:

Adobe Photoshop; HTML; Macromedia Fireworks, Dreamweaver and Flash;

Necessary Internet; Inside Your Computer.

University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa

Bachelor of Architecture 1990 (First Class Pass)

Bachelor of Architectural Studies 1986

Rotary Student Exchange Program, Illinois, USA

High School Senior Graduate 1983

Townsend Girls' High School, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe 1978-1982

GCE 'M' Levels (4 subjects with 2 distinctions) 1982

GCE 'O' Levels (11 subjects with 7 distinctions) 1981

Awards and Prizes

Corobrik Regional Architectural Student of the Year. Western Cape, South Africa, 1990.

Corobrik National Architectural Student of the Year. 2nd Runner up, South Africa, 1990.

Work Experience

Claire Friedlander Design

Architecture and Interiors (ongoing)

Largely London-based residential projects, including Planning Applications and a full Interior Design Service.

Freelance Architectural, Fit-out and Interiors work

Architect and project designer (November 2001 – March 2009)

Design concepts, design development and Design-and-Build project supervision for refurbishment work to various commercial properties (10 in all) belonging to the Langham Estate, on behalf of The Churchill Group. Various commercial fit-out projects for corporate clients including Siemens Financial Services, The Robert Bourne Group and The DCD Group. Design concepts, development, construction drawings and statutory authority approval for various residential extension and alteration projects.

Anne Machin Architects (Marylebone Warwick Balfour plc.), London, U.K.

Architect and project designer (June 2000 – October 2001)

Project design and site co-ordination for retail (Liberty), leisure (Malmaison hotels) and business centre (MWB Business Exchange- UK and Europe) projects.

Baldauf Catton Von Eckartsberg Architects, San Francisco

Architect (1999)

Design and construction detailing for retail and commercial buildings (California, USA)

Thompson Major Architects, Johannesburg

Partner (1995 - 1998)

Design, implementation and project management for various new-build retail, commercial and leisure projects including office buildings and notably bush lodge design, gaining immersive on-site building experience (*Hillside Lodge, Madikwe Game Reserve*).

Drummond Associated Architects, Johannesburg

Architect (1994 - 1995)

Design and site management for commercial and retail projects.

Louis Karol Architects, International

Design Architect; Project Leader and Design Department co-ordinator (1991 - 1993)

Conceptual design for various residential, commercial and retail developments. Co-ordination of design department for different branch offices (worked in Cape Town, Johannesburg & Tel Aviv).

Mike Smuts Architects and Urban Designers, Cape Town, South Africa

Architect and Urban Design assistant (1990 - 1991)

Residential development design work and urban design for the City of Cape Town Waterfront development, in collaboration with Louis Karol Architects.

Evans Lever Murray Architects Harare

Architectural Internship

General architectural office experience

House Haddon Design

Appendix A:

Coursework for MscAEES

Module C1 (Essay and separate presentation)

Can Carbon Market Investment Achieve the Ideals of the Kyoto Protocol in Sub Saharan Africa, and can Africa realise the benefits?

Module C3 (Materials)

Can Unfired Earth become a ubiquitous contemporary building material? (Essay only)

Module A3 (Essay and separate presentation)

Could North African Vernacular Airflow Cooling Techniques, as predicated by Egyptian Architect Hassan Fathy, provide appropriate solutions for sustainable cooling in Southern Europe?

Module A1 (Essay and separate presentation)

Is Biomimicry the key to unlocking architecture's potential for urban sustainability? An Overview.

Module B3/ CEM162 (Essay and separate presentation)

Is Urban Wind Energy Generation Physically Viable? An Overview.

Module CEM 166 (Critique of Paper)

"Managing Soils and Ecosystems for Mitigating Anthropogenic Carbon Emissions and Advancing Global Food Security" by Rattan Lal

Module CEM 159 (Critique of Paper)

"An investigation on climate responsive design strategies of vernacular housing in Vietnam" by Anh-Tuan Nguyen, Quoc-Bao Tran, Duc-Quang Tran & Sigrid Reiter

Module CEM 155 (Report)

Test Cells and Thermal Mass: What impact does the Surface Area of thermal mass have on its regulation of temperature in buildings? Experimental investigation of thermal mass using test cells.

Appendix B:

MscAEES thesis Abstract

As one of the world's poorest countries, Zimbabwe is particularly vulnerable to the effects of Climate Change. Rapid, unprecedented deforestation exacerbates these effects, yet natural woodlands are under increasing pressure owing to the abject poverty of rural Zimbabweans who are forced to depend on their resources for their livelihoods. Traditional rural houses, constructed mostly from natural materials, exemplify this dependence.

This thesis seeks to show that traditional pole-and-thatch roofs are becoming an increasingly non-viable domestic roofing option in rural Zimbabwe, owing to diminishing and degrading natural resources that provide materials for their construction. Not only do traditional roofs depend on these materials, they also contribute to their demise. Increasing population and land-use change for human settlement cause deforestation, putting great pressure on resources from natural woodlands. Although subsistence agriculture and fuel-wood demands may consume more resources than domestic construction, materials required annually for domestic construction needs is substantial, and roofing elements are a major component. Change to alternative roofing methods could, therefore help to alleviate the problem, but should be appropriate to context.

This paper proposes an earth roof as a solution, using the Nubian brick dome form built from hand-moulded sundried adobe bricks. It seeks to show that this roof is appropriate for purpose by proving sustainability, affordability and practicality. Earth roofs offer significant savings in natural materials over traditional roofs. They are affordable and require less maintenance, which is a major problem for traditional roofs.

Research is largely conducted using a qualitative phenomenological approach in an attempt to appreciate domestic roofing issues from a village end-user's perspective, toward understanding potential for uptake of what is a novel roof technology in rural Zimbabwe. The building process, supported by evidence from semi-structured interviews, showed that earth roofs are a realistic option as an alternative to traditional roofing. Research, however, would have benefitted from more time, since assimilation of change is a lengthy process, and scientific rigour was perhaps compromised by lack of time.

Despite advantages offered by affordability, mostly good thermal performance, lower maintenance benefits and novelty value, potential for widespread adoption of earth roofs is likely to be undermined by local aspiration for conventional modern houses and materials. The dome may be subject to stigma that applies to earthen structures, which are equated with poverty in Zimbabwe.