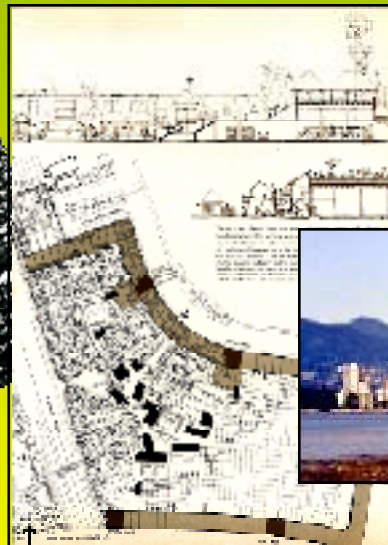# The ROAD From MANILA

Tondo Foreshore Squatters

World Urban Forum III

The 1976 International Competition

University of Santo Tomas / Massachusetts Institute of Technology – January 2006
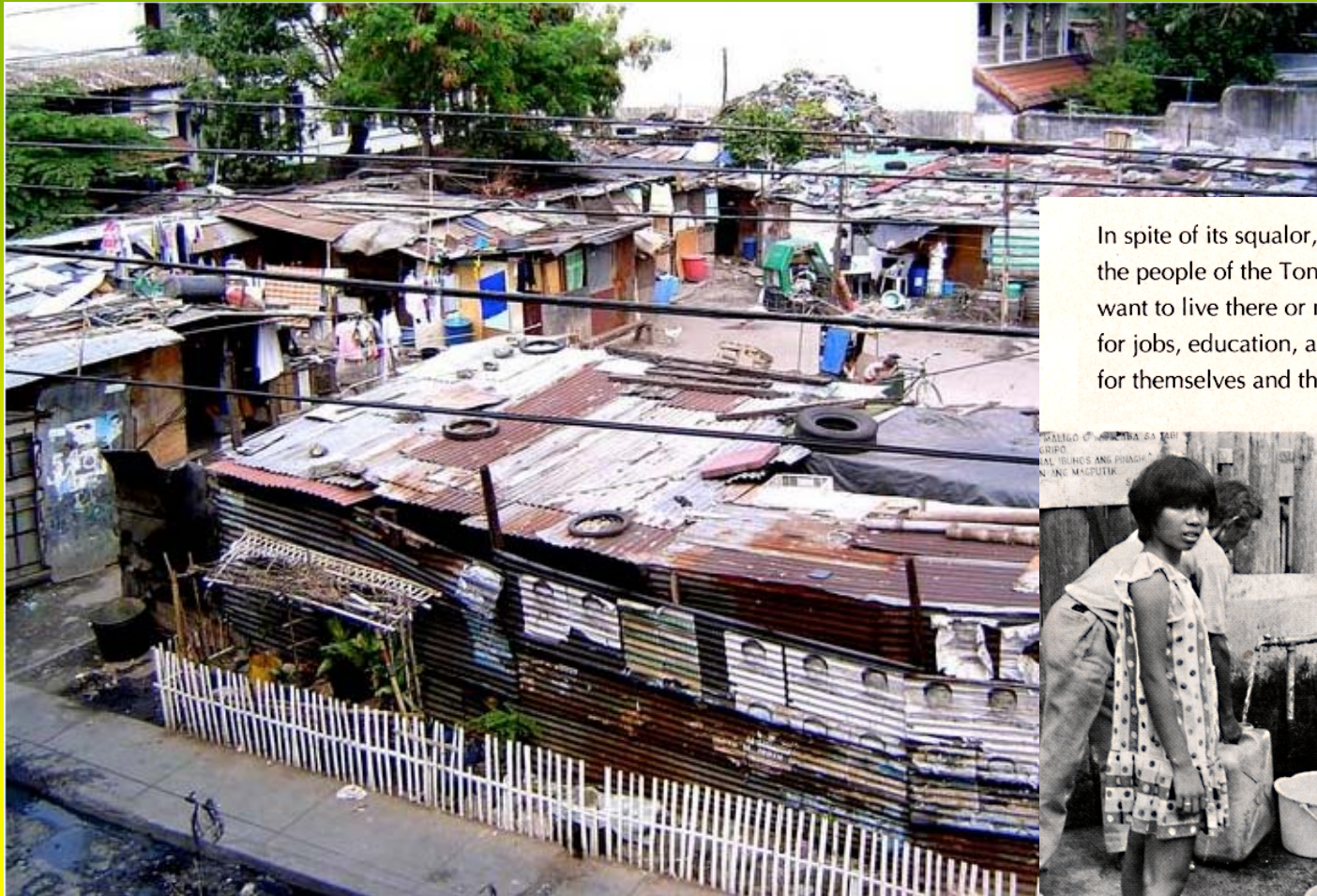
An activity of SIGUS - Special Interest Group in Urban Settlement, MIT

Squatters "discovered" in Lima! What to do???

More Squatters in Tondo-Foreshore!

In spite of its squalor,
the people of the Tondo
want to live there or near there—
for jobs, education, and a better future
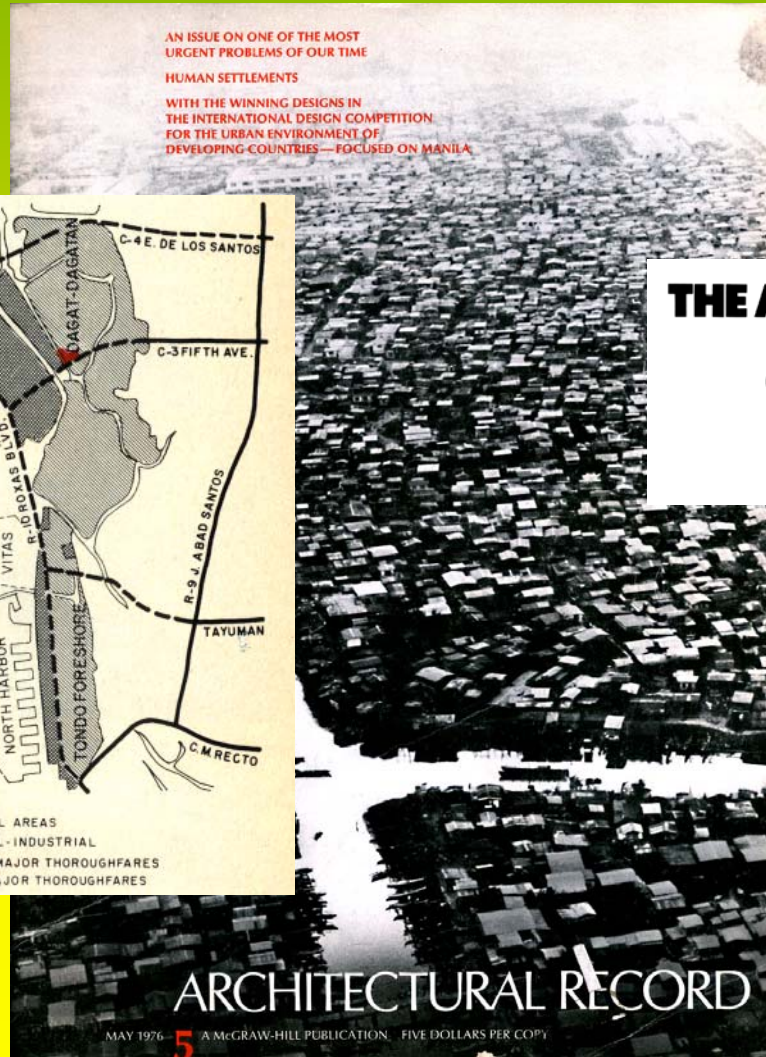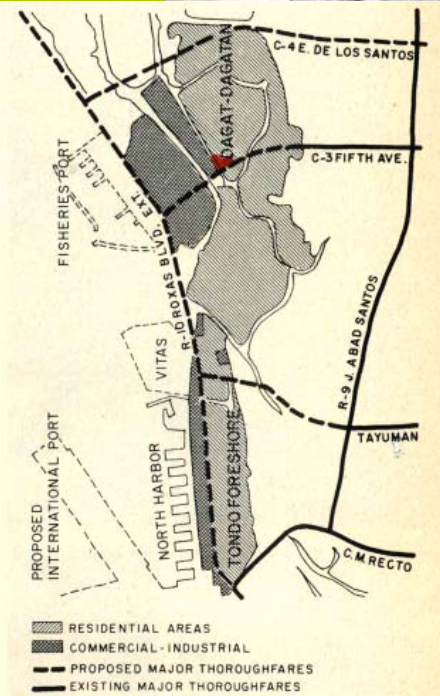for themselves and their children

What to Do? Architectural Record/UN *International Competition*

1974-1976

AN ISSUE ON ONE OF THE MOST
URGENT PROBLEMS OF OUR TIME

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

WITH THE WINNING DESIGNS IN
THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN COMPETITION
FOR THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT OF
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES—FOCUSED ON MANILA

Dagat-Dagatan—the site
of the competition—
will become a new-town-in-town
instead of a remote,
underserviced, resettlement area

THE ARCHITECTURE
OF SELF-HELP
COMMUNITIES

The first International Competition for
the Urban Environment of Developing Countries.
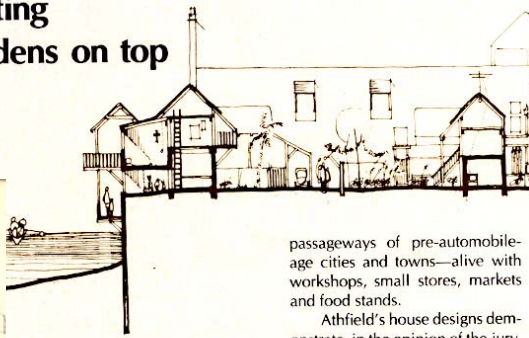
MICHAEL Y. SEELIG

FISHERIES PORT
PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL PORT
NORTH HARBOR
TONDO FORESHORE
VITAS
R-10 ROXAS BLVD. EXT.
DAGAT-DAGATAN
C-4 E. DE LOS SANTOS
C-3 FIFTH AVE.
R-9 J. ABAD SANTOS
TAYUMAN
C.M. RECTO

RESIDENTIAL AREAS
COMMERCIAL-INDUSTRIAL
PROPOSED MAJOR THOROUGHFARES
EXISTING MAJOR THOROUGHFARES

ARCHITECTURAL RECORD

MAY 1976 **5** A McGRAW-HILL PUBLICATION   FIVE DOLLARS PER COPY
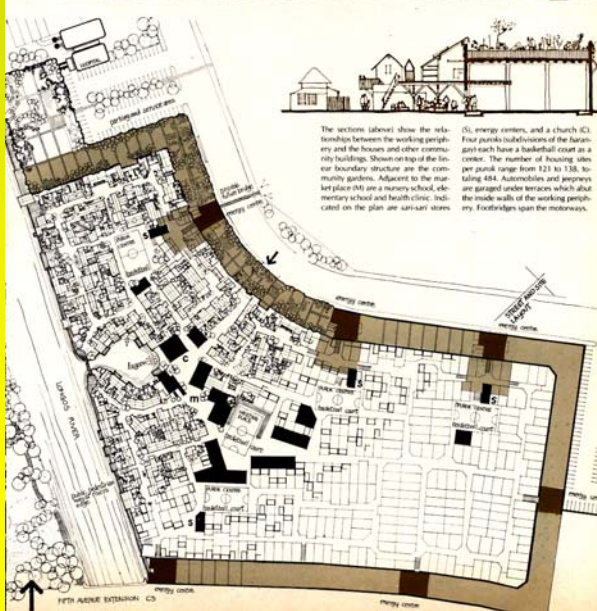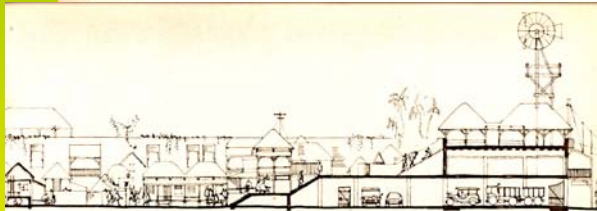
The Winners!

The first-prize-winning design by Ian Athfield
of New Zealand proposes for each barangay a new kind of work plac[e]
–a periphery of linear buildings designed for a combination
of cottage, light, and non-polluting
industries with community gardens on top

passageways of pre-automobile-
age cities and towns—alive with
workshops, small stores, markets
and food stands.

Athfield's house designs dem-
onstrate, in the opinion of the jury,
"his sensitivity to the culture and
life style of the community and its

where individuals could be
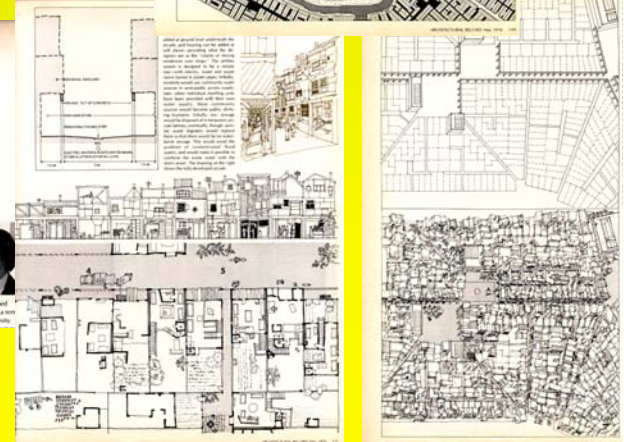trained in alternative energy and

Honorable Mention:
(Steven Holl!)

This honorable mention scheme by
San Francisco architects Holl, Tanner and Cropper
organizes the competition site with
a simple series of arcades--"a line that
defines public and private spaces"

1st UN Conference Human Settlements Vancouver, Canada

- <u>Formal international recognition</u> of informal sector with its dynamic energy

- Formal <u>acceptance of new housing paradigm</u>

- Initiated <u>founding of UN-Habitat</u>

  – Only UN agency dedicated to housing

  – Only 1 of 2 UN agencies In a developing country

  (Nairobi, Kenya)

Increased acceptance of new housing paradigms worldwide

- Site and services projects
- Upgrading *in sitio*
- Legalization of titles
- Starter, core houses
- Focus on community and people

New Role of Government as facilitator

UN World Urban Forum
Vancouver, Canada
30 years Celebration of Housing

June 19-23, 2006

- Panel discussion on 30 years of housing experience
- Exhibition?
- Video?

Reflections after 30 years….

- Two weeks of rapid impressions
- Graduate student teams from architecture and planning from MIT and University of Santo Tomas
- Visited Kapitbahayan, Dagat-Dagatan, Tondo Foreshore

Two activities:

- Interviewed <u>families and documented housing</u> changes.

- Interviewed <u>key persons</u> involved in the projects in 1976

The Review Teams

TEAM 1

TEAM 2

TEAM 3

TEAM 4

Impressions from the Families

- Kapitbahayan – Complete unit

- Tondo Foreshore – Upgrading *in sitio*

- Dagat-Dagatan – New site and services

In each neighborhood:

- "Clear successes"

- "Still evolving"

Reflections

- Families willingly accept normally intolerable situations to maintain community. Community is a key element in any successful project.

- Anticipating flexibility is necessary in all cases, even complete finished housing.

- Continuous upgrading is suggested to maintain and sustain communities.

Issues and Dilemmas

- Is a <u>project-based model</u> still relevant in the face of increasingly rapid growth? Which is the <u>proper mix of project types</u> (complete, upgrade, site and services) in housing developments?

- What is the most <u>effective role of the professional</u> architect and planner in housing? Was the <u>international competition</u> helpful?

- Are <u>issues still the same</u> after 30 years, with the same strategies to remedy?

- How to <u>balance</u> the desire for land against the demands of increased population and land scarcity?