

Allan Cain
Development Workshop
Architectural Association
34 Bedford Sq., London WCl

April 25 / 75

Editor
The Ecologist
Wadebridge , Cornwall

Dear Mr. Goldsmith

I am writing to ask about the possibilities of writing an article for your magazine. I'll first explain ourselves and then tell you about the article.

We (the Development Workshop) are a group of architects who work collectively and teach at the Architectural Association. Our primary interest is in the development of indigenous building systems in Third World countries as an alternative to the importation of expensive, wasteful and inappropriate technologies from the west. Our research has taken us to Egypt, Sudan, Lebanon, Oman, the Gulf States, Iran, and Pakistan. Although much of our work is related to building and housing we haven't been confined to this field. We have just published a feature article in AD- Architectural Design magazine April 75 and another in Architectural Association Quarterly- Spring 75. If you read the AD article you will get a clearer picture of what our work involves. Because we feel that indigenous methods of doing things have potential, not only in architectural fields, we would be interested in the wider readership that your magazine has. Some of these ideas have been discussed in the Ecologist in the past, ref. Amos Rappaport's - Ecology of Housing - January 73.

The article that we propose would deal with research that we have carried out on an indigenous water-cooling-purification system in Upper Egypt. The system employs unglazed clay pots and evaporative cooling. It is an ancient method found all over the Mediterranean and Middle East. We carried out extensive climatic and heat flow tests on the pots and discovered that this simple system was incredibly sophisticated, being regulated by local micro-climate fluctuations. We also tested the water flowing through the system and found that even water taken directly from the Nile was purified to government drinking standards.

We have also documented other uses of this evaporative cooling method in areas we have worked in the Middle East.

This system when compared with 'modern' energy consuming mechanical methods, provides a useful case study to further the argument for the rational use of indigenous systems. Such methods refined in Third World countries may prove to be of use in the West as well.

If you are interested in such an article we would be happy to prepare it. Included is a rather poor copy of the water jars tested in our experiments.

I am looking forward to your early reply.

ecologist

73, Molesworth Street, Wadebridge, Cornwall PL27 7DS. Tel: Wadebridge 2996/7

Reg. No. 970404 England.

AE/755/22

2nd May 1975

Allan Cain
Development Workshop
Architectural Association
34 Bedford Square
London WC1

Dear Mr Cain,

Thank you for your letter and the enclosed photograph. Your researches sound very interesting and we would be pleased to consider an article on this subject. Owing to great pressure of space a well compressed short paper will stand a better chance of publication than a very long one. May I suggest 2000 - 3000 words.

Yours sincerely



Ruth Lumley-Smith
Assistant Editor.

Will you submit the photograph, or possibly a better print of it, again with the article please.

Letter 1000

May 6 1975

Ruth Lumley-Smith
Assistant Editor
The Ecologist

Dear Ms Lumley-Smith

Thankyou for your letter dated May 2 75 indicating your interest in an article on our work. We are happy that you will consider it. Work on the article is underway now and we will send it to you shortly along with several illustrations.

Meanwhile could you let us know what fees you pay for articles accepted of about 3000 words in length.

Thankyou again for your interest

Allan Cain

DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

On Indigenous Building Methods in Developing Countries

Allan Cain B.Env./Arch, AA Dip Farroukh Afshar AA Dip John Norton AA Dip

Architectural Association

34-36 Bedford Square

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07C

c/o Dr. T. Farvar
46 Sahba St.,
Amirabad Ave.,
Tehran, Iran

Editor
The Ecologist
73 Molesworth St.,
Wadebridge, Cornwall, U.K.

Dear Editor

Please find included the article on 'Indigenous Cooling Systems in the Third World', which we promised to you several months ago. Because of our change of base from London to Iran we have had to delay the final preparation of our article until now.

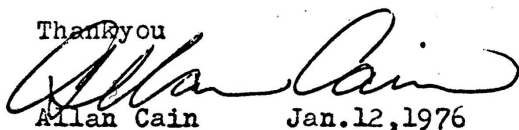
We are at the moment working on an integrated development project in Luristan province Iran. It is an opportunity to put some of our ideas into practice and provides an excellent base to carry out our research. We have recently published articles on various aspects of our work on the development of indigenous systems in Third World Countries in a number of magazines: ref. Architectural Design-April 1975, Appropriate Technology I.T.D.G.-Summer 1975, and Architectural Association Quarterly Spring 1975. We will be making a presentation to the Human Settlements Conference in Vancouver this spring.

Concerning the article that we are sending you, we hope that you will be able to publish it intact with all graphs and figures included. If this is not possible could you please return the article to us as it is. Please also find included a photo which should accompany the article. We suggest that this could be used on the cover of the magazine featuring the article. We hope that you can use this article in the next magazine or in the immediate future.

Concerning fees, we hope to receive what is your current rate for articles of this length and number of illustrations. Could you send us 15 copies of the magazine featuring the article. Any expense please take from the fee.

We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Thank you



Allan Cain Jan. 12, 1976

also for Farroukh Afshar, John Norton, Mohammad-Reza Daraie.
the Development Workshop

The Ecologist

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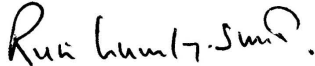
Allan Cain Esq.,
Development Workshop,
Architectural Association,
34 - 36 Bedford Square,
London WC1B 3ES

8th May 1975.

Dear Mr. Cain,

Thank you for your letter of 6th. I look forward to seeing your paper. I am afraid we only pay a wretched £10.00. per thousand words. It's not nearly as much as we'd like to pay, but unless our circulation rushes forward our fees can't.

Yours sincerely



Ruth Lumley-Smith
Assistant Editor.

The Ecologist

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Allan Cain Esq.,
Development Workshop,
C/o Dr. T. Farvar,
46 Sahba St.,
Amirabad, Avenue,
Tehran, IRAN.

20th January 1976.

Dear Mr. Cain,

Indigenous Cooling Systems in the Third World

Thank you for the article by yourself and your partners which reached us today. We like this very much indeed and will certainly publish it.

Owing to an unexpected change we may even include the paper in our next - February - issue, but this must be subject to our being able to fit it in to the unexpected space. If it cannot be fitted here with all its attendant diagrams, we shall have to hold it for the following joint March/April issue. In either case we shall most certainly include your photograph of the Maziara jar, though I cannot promise that it will be featured on the cover - that will also depend on a number of factors.

I have noted your request for 15 copies of the issue containing the article when it appears.

Yours sincerely

Ruth Lunley-Smith

Ruth Lunley-Smith.
Assistant Editor.

Reg. No. 970404 England