

THE HYDRO-LOGE-ICAL CYCLE

**ON-SITE WATER MANAGEMENT
STRATEGIES**

FROM A RURAL PERSPECTIVE

PRESENTED BY
AQUARIAN SYSTEMS INC.

MAIN FEATURES

- RAINWATER HARVESTING & STORAGE
- USE OF RAINWATER INDOORS AND OUT
- WASTEWATER TREATMENT BY WAY OF LANDSCAPING:
 - GREYWATER TREATMENT PLANTERS
 - ENGINEERED WETLANDS
 - EVAPOTRANSPIRATION GARDENS
 - DRIP IRRIGATION
- WATER CONSERVATION WITH:
 - LOW FLOW FIXTURES
 - COMPOSTING TOILETS
- ON-SITE INFILTRATION OF STORMWATER

RAINWATER CATCHMENT AND USE

10,000 Gal. concrete cistern under house.
Cistern bypass infiltrates garden soil.



- Strainer baskets catch roof debris allowing for easy access and cleaning
- Rainwater then drains to cistern or bypass to garden



WATER CLOSET

- PVC pipes from cistern (bottom left hand corner)
- Pump (on floor)
- Pressure tank (blue tank)
- Particulate filter (small filter on wall above hot water tank)
- Ultra-Violet filter (on wall)
- Hot water tank
- Supply line to house plumbing system



- Particulate filter removes suspended solids
- Ultra-violet filter disinfects, removing pathogens



HEDGE IRRIGATION USING RAINWATER RUNOFF

Gravity at work













Overflow to drip lines



Gravity feed to soaker hoses



In-line filter





Soil infiltration
during irrigation
bypass mode in
winter.





- Trees absorb carbon dioxide at an ever increasing rate as they mature.
- Mature trees will provide a wind buffer helping to deflect winter's cooling winds.
- Vegetation reduces stormwater runoff by absorbing and slowing the movement of water.
- Trees shade the ground thereby cooling the surface of the planet.



GREYWATER TREATMENT USING PLANTERBEDS

GHOSTS

(GreenHouse Organic Sewage Treatment Society)

Greywater Pilot Project



Distribution Laterals



Flood chambers on laterals





Water Independence



- All water used in this house is harvested from the roof.
- 3000 imp. gal. plastic cistern
- 1 Pint flush composting toilet
- Planter bed for greywater treatment.
- In-door summer temperatures reduced by shading from vegetated planter.
- Drainage from planter used for landscape irrigation.
- Compost from toilet used as soil amendment.

Roof collection system



Sun-Mar composting toilet



1 liter flush toilet



Close up of membrane lined, cedar clad, greywater planter.
Flowers in foreground irrigated with planter drainage



Greywater treatment planter as an integral component of landscape architecture.



Cooling summer shade



All household water collected from roof.
3000 imp. gal. capacity, tucked away at back of house.



Overflow infiltrated to local soils

Compost/Dry Toilet

- Composting bin
- Access hatch for monitoring, maintenance and removal of composted material
- In-house toilet directly above composting bin



Dry toilet (non-flush)



Compost used as soil amendment for rose bush



Compost could be used as soil amendment for planter and covered with bark mulch.



Planters for treating onsite sewage



Pre-cast well rings for planters



Sewage treatment blends with landscaping







GRAND OPENING!

*recycle
*reuse

Hornby Depot
Composting Toilet Facility

*protect the
environment



12 Noon
Saturday, Feb. 18
Come Celebrate!

*ribbon cutting
*drumming
*hot bowls of chili
*educational tours



Education
for the 21st
Century

FEATURES OF THE FACILITY:

- *rainwater catchment and dispersal
- *greywater treatment
- *vermiculture composting of solid waste
- *solar-powered ventilation system
- *alternative construction materials ... and more

Wall materials



Crushed and baled tin cans and old hot water tanks create the shape.

Public sorting area



Tin can processing area



Tin can baler



Mortared like bricks







Gourd plants in evapo-transpiration garden receive water from hand basins and urinal.



Evapotranspiration
bed

EPDM rubber
membrane



Drain port with
overflow
standpipe

Crushed glass
aggregate



Sand layer to provide for capillary action and evaporation from surface.



Vine trellis made with recycled bicycle rims



Maturing gourd





Terraced evapo-transpiration garden (recycled rubber tires) receives compost leachate & roof water during dry season and overflow (if any) from evapo-transpiration wetland at front of building.



Terraced garden 1 ½ years later



Roof water collection for hand basins



Passive solar vent on roof



Entryway garden
feature irrigated
with rain water
from roof



Soil infiltration trench for roof runoff



Composting chamber access



Composting worm bins



Toilet chute



URINAL AND TOILET



Mature compost



CONSTRUCTED WETLANDS

Constructed wetland for residential sewage treatment.
Freshly planted



Mature vegetation in constructed wetland



Septic tanks
preceding
wetland



EPDM liner and inlet distribution pipe



Tribune Bay Outdoor Education Centre



Bulrush prior to planting



Mature vegetation



AQUAPONICS

Integration of fish rearing and
gardening

Hornby Community School Science Fair



Harvesting of the sunflower sprouts



Goldfish tank



Filter/growing medium and bell siphon



Seedling Nursery



CLIMATE CHANGE AND BEST WATER MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- Increase in local vegetation humidifies and cools the air by way of evapo-transpiration from the surrounding soil and vegetation.
- Shade provided by vegetation reduces in house temperatures.
- Cooler temperatures reduces the use of air cooling devices thus reducing energy demand, consequently reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- Greenhouse gases are absorbed from the atmosphere because of increased vegetative growth.

*ASK NOT ONLY:
HOW WILL OUR WATER SUPPLY
BE EFFECTED BY CLIMATE
CHANGE?*

*BUT, ALSO,
HOW WILL OUR WATER
MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
EFFECT CLIMATE CHANGE?*

CHEMICAL HAZARDS TO LOCAL WATERS

- **Medications** and other chemicals such as **cosmetics** and **cleansers** persist in the environment, traveling beyond the septic field or sewer discharge pipe.
- Research shows that the root zone and surrounding rhizosphere has the capability of breaking down complex compounds into their constituent elements.

PHYTOREMDIATION

Phytoremediation involves the use of vascular plants, algae, fungi, and soil micro-organisms to remove and control waste or spur waste breakdown.

RECOMMENDED READING

“Phytoremediation: Transformation and Control of Contaminants”

**Edited by Steven C. McCutcheon
and Jerald L. Schnoor**

Published 2003

AFFORDABLE COMMUNITY HOUSING

A CONCEPTUAL MODEL

INCORPORATING HYDRO-LOGICAL DESIGN PRACTICES



3 STORY, 4000 SQ. FT.

- HOUSING 18 – 20 PEOPLE IN STUDIO, AND ONE AND TWO BEDROOM APTS.
- 4 STUDIO/WORKSHOP/RETAIL SPACES
- CAFÉ, KITCHEN, GALLERY SPACE
- WASTE TO WEALTH WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

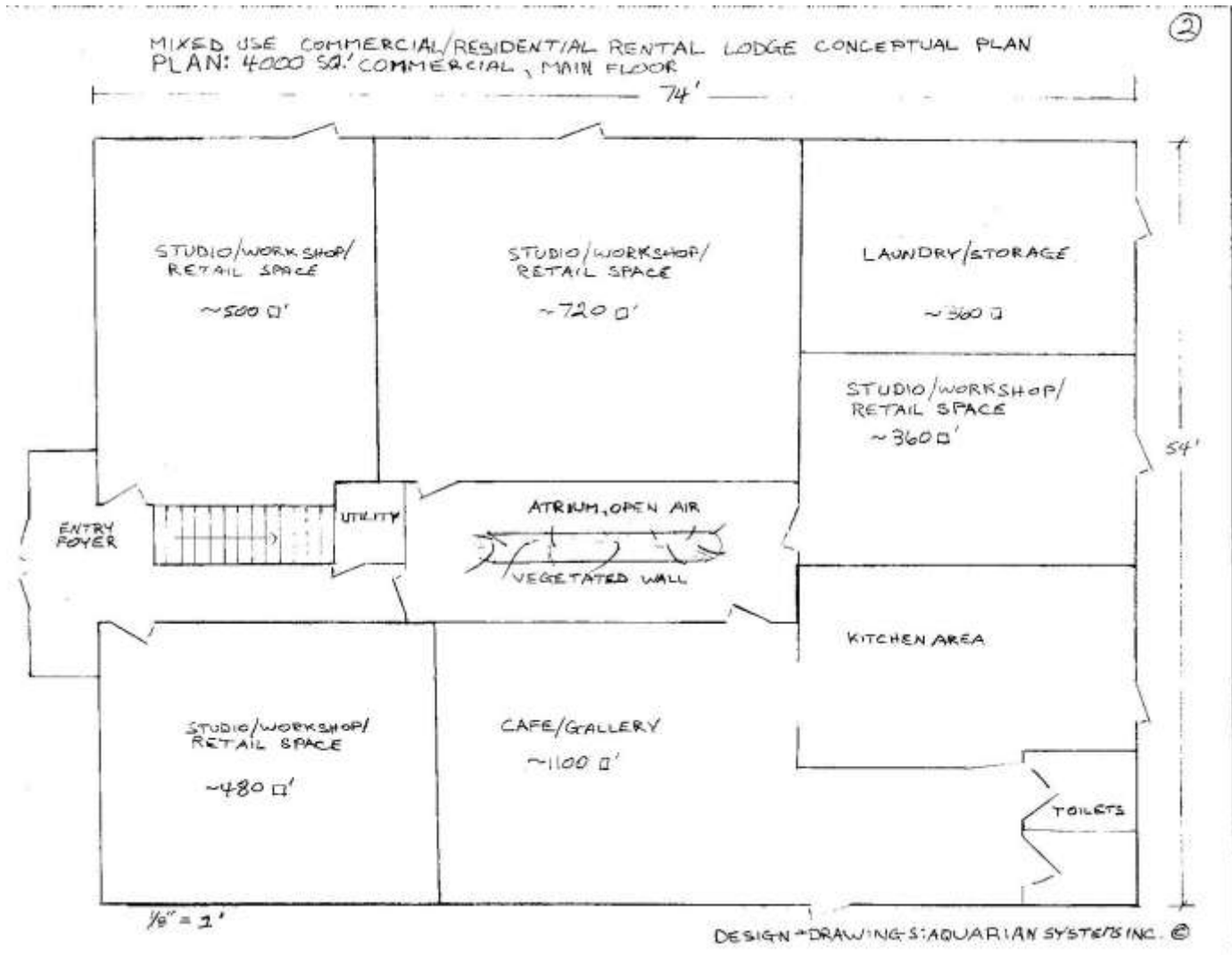


INTENTS

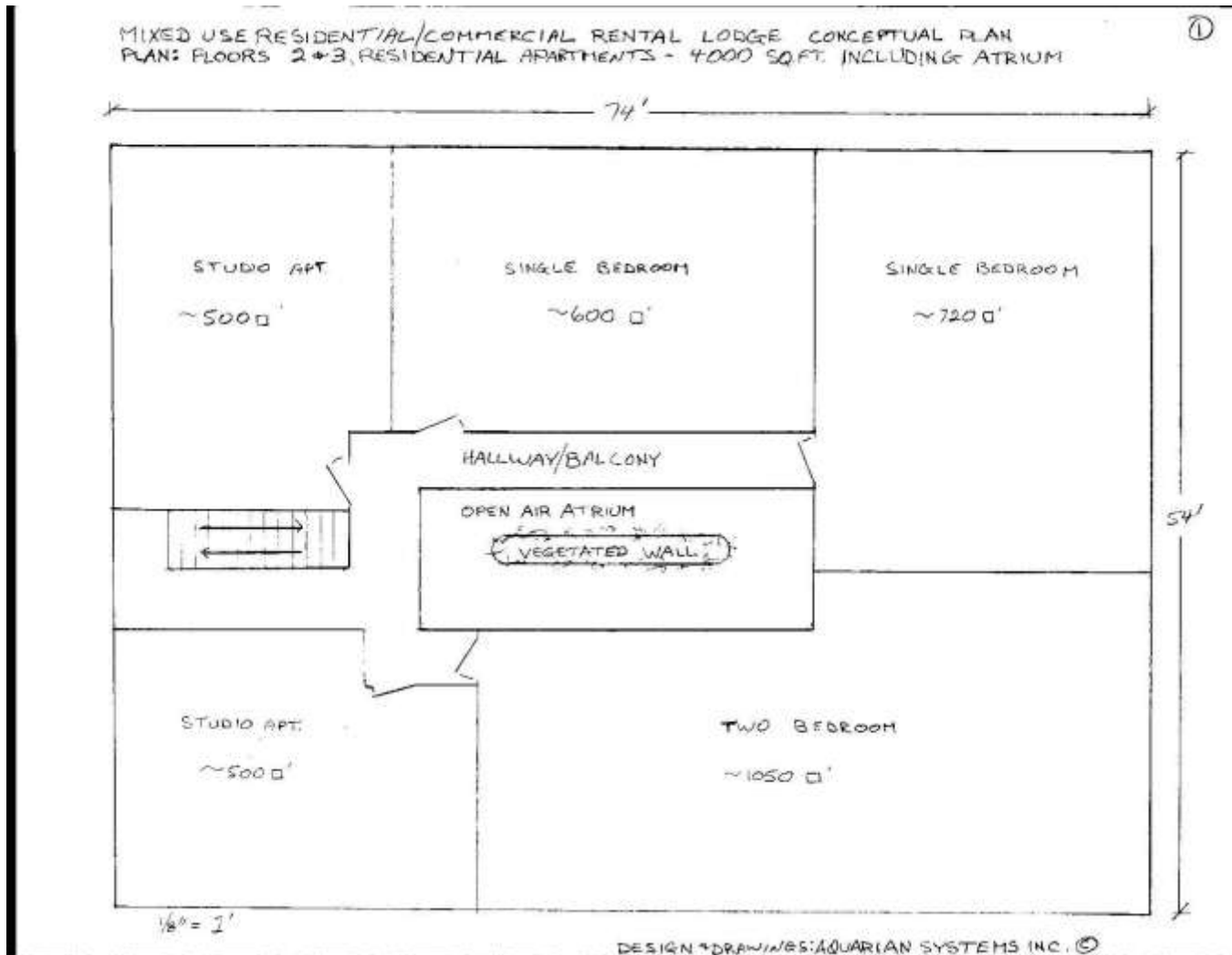
- PROVIDE AFFORDABLE HOUSING
- FOSTER ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
- CREATE COMMUNITY
- WATER MANAGEMENT INTEGRATING STRUCTURAL, SOCIAL, AND ECOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES
- NOURISHMENT OF BODY AND SPIRIT



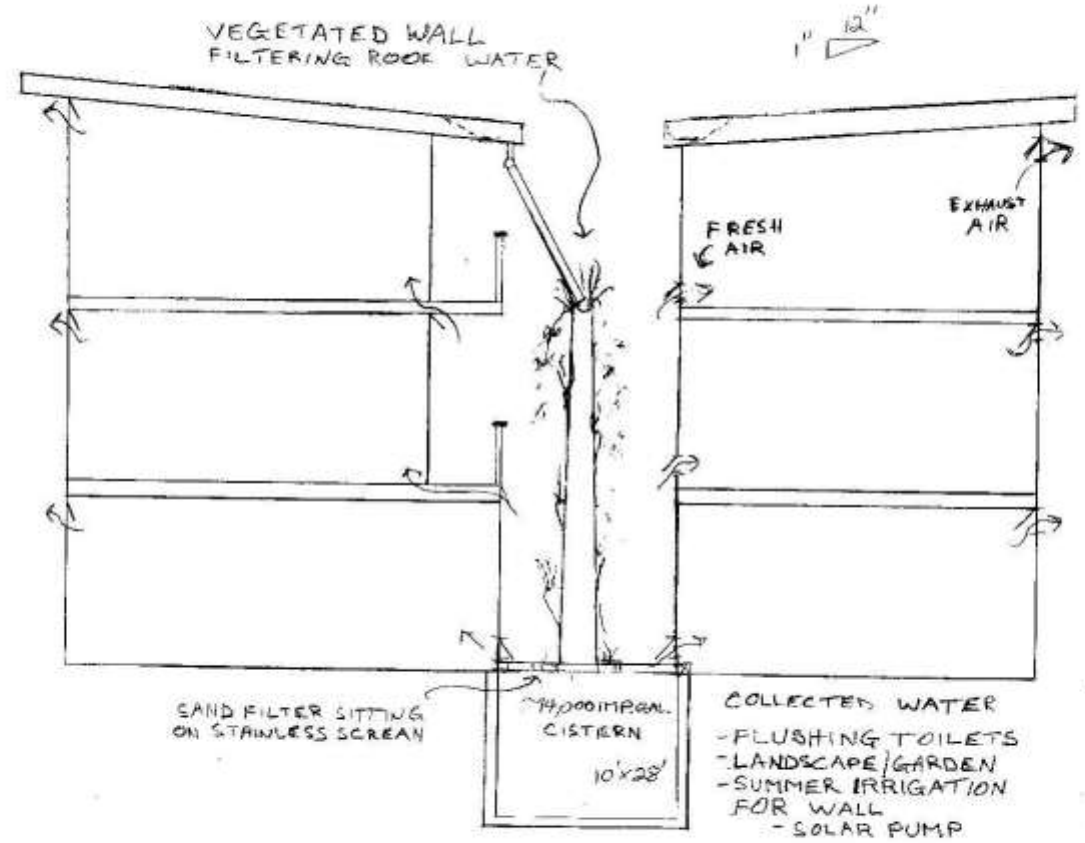
GROUND FLOOR STUDIO/WORKSHOP/RETAIL



2ND & 3RD FLOORS RESIDENTIAL

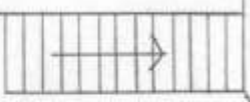


SECTION: WATER COLLECTION/VEGETATED WALL



PLANTER

ENTRY



ATRIUM

VEGETATED WALL

STUDIO/RETAIL SPACE

CAFE/GALLERY

KITCHEN

PERVIOUS SURFACE COURTYARD

EVAPOTRANSPIRATION - GUARDS

GUARDS TRELLISED FOR SHADE

EVAPOTRANSPIRATION - GUARDS

VEGETATED INFILTRATION SWALE FOR ROOF OVERFLOW

TABLES

PLANTERS AND EVAPOTRANSPIRATION BEDS IRRIGATED WITH/TREAT WASTEWATER

EVAPOTRANSPIRATION BAMBOO

EVAPOTRANSPIRATION BAMBOO

PLANTER

1/8" = 1'

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DESIGN/DRAWINGS: AQUARIAN SYSTEMS INC. ©

ENERGY SAVING FEATURES:

- Optional drying racks in laundry area
- Exercise room with electricity generation capability
- Rooftop solar hot water heaters
- Photovoltaic roofing materials
- Passive air conditioning
- Maximize natural lighting
- Growing raw materials for craft work onsite
- Living and working onsite reduces vehicle use



AQUARIAN SYSTEMS INC.

Consultation, Design, and
Construction of:

- Rainwater Harvesting Systems
- Onsite wastewater management
- Planter Bed Greywater Treatment
- Composting Toilets
- Engineered Wetlands
- Stormwater management
- Residential or commercial buildings integrating, sky to soil water management, and landscape architecture

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