



Drawing by Tomaki Tamura; courtesy of the Cosanti Foundation

Figure 6.7 Arcosanti: the proposal.

be clustered together because such clustering represents the processes of everyday life. The second principle, *miniaturization*, sought to integrate resources efficiently by reducing the sizes of spaces and the time to travel between them. The third principle he labelled *duration*. Duration is difficult to understand but has to do with the time consumed in carrying out the activities of life and the goal of ‘living outside time’ – that is, the capacity to renew oneself and one’s surroundings.

To build Arcosanti, Soleri formed the Cosanti Foundation to conduct research and to raise funds from philanthropic organizations, the royalties on book sales and permissions to publish his work and the sale of Soleri-designed bells (forged on site). The foundation also organizes

voluntary student labour during the summer months to build the city. The foundation has about 65 staff members – volunteers and employees. About 150 students work on the project each summer. Arcosanti has become a tourist destination attracting about 50,000 visitors each year.

Arcosanti had its beginnings in 1956 when Paolo and Colly Soleri bought the land that became the home base of the Cosanti Foundation. Soleri’s early experiments there were with earth structures. He established his first office on site in 1959 and developed an apprentice programme for architects and students. They explored the building of earth-cast apses that became a feature in the design of Arcosanti. The design of the prototype city was developed in 1969 and construction began in 1970. It