

intended for unusually talented designers, I believe few of my urban design students became designers. Many became excellent administrators, initially in government planning agencies, eventually in non-governmental organizations or the private sector. Some were principals in their own firms, some became developers, others academics. Most found their way into new fields or areas of architectural practice more permanent and better supported than urban design. Perhaps they took their proclivities for orchestration to their new endeavors.

Redefining Urban Design for Today

Our experiences of looking and learning, teaching, and practicing have caused Venturi and me to write—to set down what seems relevant at a given time to architecture and urban design. In the 1960s and 1970s, during the height of the social planners' critique, I defined myself as a circus horse rider, trying to pull the horses of planning and architecture together as they diverged.

Our writings from that time, including Venturi's *Complexity and Contradiction in Architecture* and our *Learning from Las Vegas*, tried to find a view of architecture and urban design that met urban social reality as we saw it. In that process, Crane was a confrère, but Harvard was the Modernist datum from which we (rather publicly) diverged.²⁷ In the mid 1960s I wrote seven chapters of a book to be called "Determinants of Urban Form," but I could not find funding to continue it. Its content filters through our other writing, and in 2004 some of it appeared, mediated by forty years of professional experience, in part 2 of our book *Architecture as Signs and Systems for a Mannerist Time*.²⁸

In 1980 I tackled directly the definition of urban design. I called myself an architect and planner (not an urban designer, not an architect-planner) and defined urban design as one focus within this spectrum: "Architecture is the window through which I view my world, personal and professional. The span between architecture and planning—and then some—is the range of concerns that I bring to my work. Urban design is a type of design I do or am involved in. This is not a question of scale but of approach." In terms derived from Harvard but not only from there, I continued: "For me, the essence of the urban design approach is that it concentrates more on relations between objects, more on linkages, contexts, and in-between places, than on the