

ABSTRACT

This research paper explores the development of sustainable architecture as demonstrated by *Architecture New Zealand*, formerly known as *New Zealand Architect*, between 1970 and 2000. Furthermore, it examines international conferences and political events, which have influenced New Zealand's sustainable movement. In this case, the report identifies the Stockholm Conference in June 1972 as the beginning of public awareness in terms of environmental problems. It examines the influence of the two oil crises in October 1973 and during the Iranian Revolution in 1979 and shows their influence on the sustainable movement. In order to indicate the critiques and developments in New Zealand's sustainable history during the 1970s, the paper examines articles by Peter Bartlett (1978), Graham Stevens (1978) and Ivan M. Johnstone (1980).

The Brundtland Commission in 1983 and the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 are explored by the research paper to show that the sustainable movement was widely recognised as an opportunity to reduce the carbon dioxide emissions, after the international community started to agree that climate change was more than a controversial theory during the 1980s. Therefore, the paper examines national efforts to reduce the carbon dioxide emissions after the Earth Summit and considers an international architectural competition by the Wellington City Council, which marks the beginning of national efforts in New Zealand. The Kyoto Protocol in 1997 is the last subject that is determined by the paper to identify the beginning of global action against climate change. This report examines articles that were published by Graeme Robertson (1991), Richard Lambourne (1992), Nigel Isaacs (1993), John Storey (1993, 1994, 1995), Russell Hawken (1993), Roman Jaques (1993), Sean Lockie (1994) and Michael Donn (1996, 1997) to describe the development during the 1980s and 90s.

Overall, the paper shows that the 1970s can be seen as a turning point in the development of international environmental politics that indicate the beginning of public concerns in terms of the sustainable movement. It explains that sustainability was widely seen as a problem during the 80s, and a rethinking in architectural design started to be the goal. The paper concludes that the international community realised during the 90s, that they have to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to reduce global warming and started to support and to establish sustainable architecture.