



# THE SKYCOURT AND SKYGARDEN

## GREENING THE URBAN HABITAT

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### Abstract

Population increase, an advance in technology and the continued trend towards inner-city migration has transformed the traditional city of spaces into the modern city of objects. This has necessitated alternative spatial and technological solutions to replenish those environments that were once so intrinsic to society's day-to-day interactions and communal activities.

This book considers the skycourt and skygarden as 'alternative social space' that form part of a broader multi-level urban infrastructure - seeking to replenish the loss of open space within the built environment.

Jason Pomeroy begins the discussion with the decline of the public realm, and how the semi-public realm has been incorporated into a spatial hierarchy that supports the primary figurative spaces on the ground or, in their absence, creates them in the sky. He then considers the skycourt and skygarden in terms of the social, cultural, economic, environmental, technological, and spatial benefits that they provide the urban habitat.

He concludes as an advocate for a new hybrid city that can harness the socio-spatial characteristics of the public domain - placed within buildings as alternative communal spaces for the twenty-first century.

Using graphics and full colour images throughout, the author explores 40 current and forthcoming skycourt and skygarden projects from around the world, including the Shard (London), Marina Bay Sands (Singapore), the Shanghai Tower (China) and the Lotte Tower (South Korea).

### About the Author



Prof. Jason Pomeroy is an award winning architect, masterplanner and academic at the forefront of the sustainable built environment agenda. He graduated with distinction from Canterbury School of Architecture and Cambridge University, and is the Founding Principal of Pomeroy Studio. In addition to leading the design and research direction of Pomeroy Studio, he lectures internationally and publishes widely. He is the author of 'Idea House: Future Tropical Living Today' and is a professor of the University of Nottingham. He also sits on the editorial board of the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat.