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The conservation of Bologna's large historic centre is carried out, not in a bourgeois manner as an aesthetic set piece, but for the benefit of the existing working-class inhabitants. Thomas R. Angotti & Bruce S. Dale examine the municipality's innovative systems of citizen participation, subsidies, and methodology of renovation techniques.

19 The Autonomous Houses

The realities of autonomous housing surveyed by Peter Harper. He appraises 19 projects by the various criteria of autonomy. The text is in 8 parts: Part 1 examines the possible scope of resource autonomy, and places the autonomous dwelling unit in its proper (and limited) context. Parts 2 and 3 are mainly technical and describe various features of autonomous units. Part 4 compares a number of proposed designs. Part 5 concerns the economics of autonomous units, and ends with a discussion of economies of scale. Parts 6 and 7 focus on communal-scale units, with designs and two proposals for semi-autonomous communities, one rural, one urban. The feature is an edited chapter from the forthcoming book *Radical technology* compiled by *Undercurrents* magazine.

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