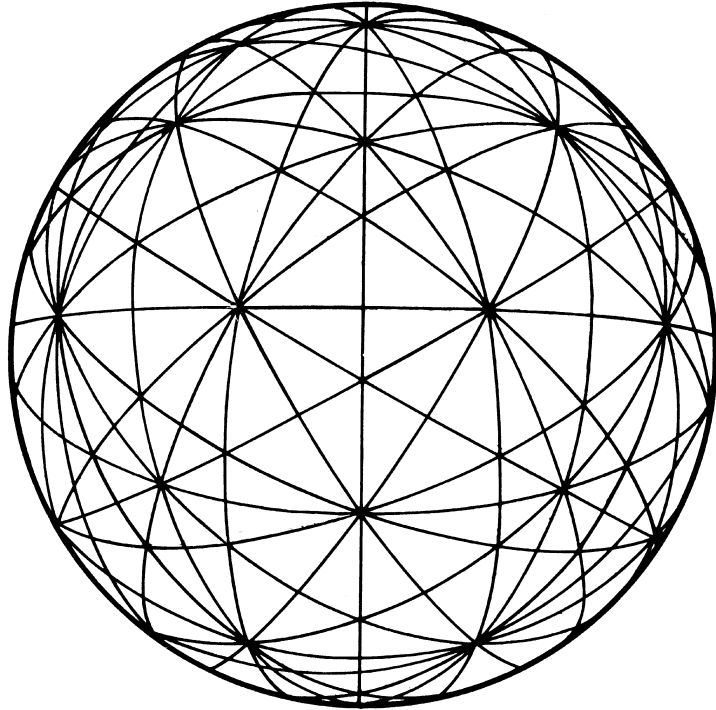


Right  
Sphere showing the thirty-one great circles which can  
omni-symmetrically orbit a  
centre, the geometry  
employed by Buckminster  
Fuller for his geodesic  
domes



is that since it is based on both earlier precedents, on an awareness of the past, and equally on the severest possible criticism of those examples before any acceptance, there may be a reasonable balance between continuity and innovation. It may be likely that we have not discarded all the lessons since Adam and Eve built in paradise but that, at the same time, we are equally conscious of the existence of new problems and the necessity for new solutions; that we work in a radical but on-going tradition.

Any theory needs to survive a number of tests. In this instance crucial among these would be to what extent it adequately explains the way design takes place. We can apply this

test by analysing a number of buildings and by finding out about their design. I first intend to discuss three significant buildings completed in 1997 which have made an impact on both architects and the general public.