

been part of its warp and weft for thousands of years. In view of this it may also hold lessons outside its own realm.

Books, like architecture, have antecedents. A number of the topics which are discussed in this volume were explored in earlier and different incarnations. Chief among these antecedents would be Karl Popper's writings which underpinned the arguments in my book *From Idea to Building* (Brawne, 1992). A highly compressed summary described it as 'a critical view of the assumptions which influence initial design decisions and of the process of development from inception to inhabited building, together with an analysis of the general implications of the design process'.

The existence of both continuity and change was the subject of my talk at a symposium organised by P.G. Raman at the Department of Architecture, University of Edinburgh, in November 1997. The propositions put forward were illustrated by the work of Geoffrey Bawa in Sri Lanka, whose architecture I had described in several articles in the *Architectural Review*. Ideas about the aesthetics of the plan and the nature of architectural drawings were developed at another seminar at the University of Edinburgh and eventually published in *Spazio e società/Space & society*, 44, 1988.

The relevance of Popper's ideas to education were discussed by me at a symposium at the University of Portsmouth in February 1994. The proceedings were later published in *Educating Architects* (1995) edited by Martin Pearce and Maggie Toy.

Many of the topics which appear in this essay were also the subject of lectures I have given in various places and in particular at the University of Cambridge and the University of Bath, in both of which I taught for many years. Teaching was, however, always carried on in parallel with architectural practice. I believe strongly that teaching needs, as in other disciplines, to be combined with research. Design, and controlling the translation of design into architecture, is the core of architectural research; design and architecture cannot be divorced. This was a subject I discussed in *Architectural Research Quarterly*, Winter, 1995.