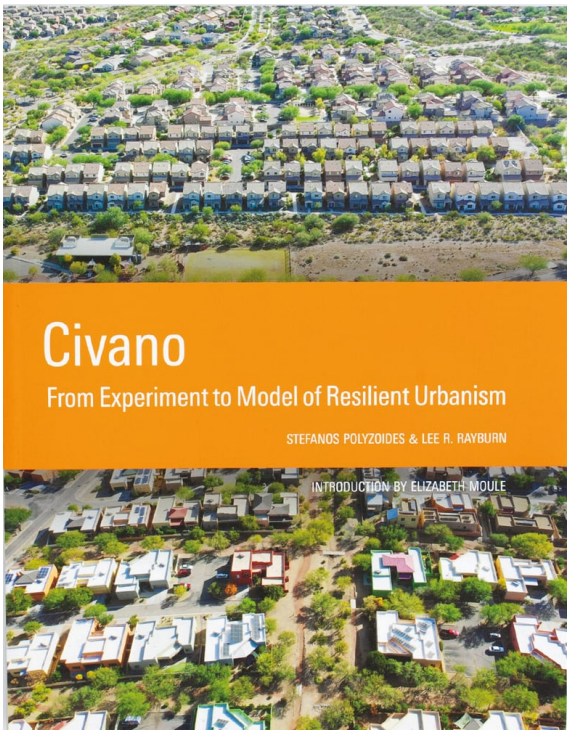
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Civano

From Experiment to Model of Resilient Urbanism

Stefanos Polyzoides

L R Rayburn

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- Study of the process of implementing and building an innovative mixed-use, multi-neighbourhood new urban development
- Study of the incorporation of regional vernacular precedents to build more sustainably
- Study of how properly designed communities can help mitigate against the impact of climate change by adopting a form-based architectural, urban and environmental design approach

20 years after its completion, Civano remains a valuable model to emulate for environmentally appropriate growth accommodation, and creation of resilient communities of lasting value. It combines an aggressive environmental sustainability protocol with the social and design tenants of the new urbanism to create a model alternative to sprawl development.

Civano is a retrospective study of a pioneering urban development project in the Sonora Desert that was built in a traditional urban form based on a combined social, and environmental protocol.

In this book, the authors examine both the history and evolution of this unique architectural and urbanist experiment, and consider lessons learned that can lead to a new model of growth accommodation and community building that is more politically intelligent, environmentally responsible, and socially resilient.

Stefanos Polyzoides is currently a professor and dean of the School of Architecture at the University of Notre Dame. He earned his bachelor and MArch degrees in architecture and planning from Princeton University, taught at USC between 1973 and 1995, and along with his wife Elizabeth Moule, he is a cofounder of the Congress for the New Urbanism and a partner in Moule & Polyzoides of Pasadena, CA. The firm has completed more than 500 projects in the US and around the world. He is the author or co-author of numerous books and articles on architecture and urbanism.

L. R. Rayburn earned his bachelor and MArch degrees from the University of Pennsylvania. His career has bridged both architectural practice and development and has focused on adaptive reuse and preservation, community development, and urban revitalisation. Early in his career, sustainability emerged as a central theme of his professional work and has remained so. His work has received awards for both design excellence and its contribution to the vitality of urban life. His work in affordable housing in Baltimore was honoured by a special commendation by the Maryland House of Delegates. Mr. Rayburn was the director of design, and later managed all facets of the Community of Civano's development. He lives in Civano, while splitting his time between Tucson and Durham, NC.







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