

# WHAT IS DOMICOLOGY AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT

Domicology is the study of the life cycle of our built environment, including our homes, shopping centers, hospitals, schools, manufacturing facilities, roads, and all other structures we have built. Taken together, the weight of our built environment now exceeds the total weight of all living things on the planet.

**Currently, we take materials from the earth, process them, construct buildings, use them, and eventually demolish them.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) found that more than 75% of all construction and demolition waste ends up in landfills, and studies estimate that construction and demolition waste is expected to reach 2.2 billion tons generated globally each year by 2025.

**There is an alternative model for our built environment.** Structures have an “end of life.” We should plan, design, build, rebuild, and deconstruct our built environment to maximize the salvage of valuable limited materials, stop structural abandonment, and create a more sustainable and just society.

This 21st century approach to building creates a new economic ecosystem of jobs and industries dedicated to material salvage, reuse, and repurposing and seeks to end structural abandonment. It reimagines how we build our future communities.

