



Robert Huxford:

Robert is Director of Britain's Urban Design Group and also one of the founders of the Public Realm Information and Advice Network.

Notes from the podcast interview by Andrew Stuck of Robert, while walking on a wet weekday morning in Clerkenwell, London: Interviewed December 2008 and published February 2009 on <http://talkingwalking.net>

Urban Design Group: <http://www.udg.org.uk/>

Public Realm Information and Advice Network:

<http://www.publicrealm.info/>

Clerkenwell: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clerkenwell>

Robert was formerly Knowledge Transfer manager at the Institution of Civil Engineers referred to by Andrew Stuck as ICE in the interview and manager of the Association of Municipal Engineers.

"By Design" – a guide to promote higher standards in urban design – it is available from the website of the Commission of Architecture and the built Environment:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/bydesignurban>

and as a briefing note from the Urban Design Group website

<http://www.urban-design-group.org.uk/>

The Automobile Association's "Fuel for Thought" campaign published research on fuel consumption and the effect of 20 mph area-wide speed limits: http://www.theaa.com/public_affairs/news/20mph-roads-emissions.html

It measured the fuel consumption of a car travelling at a steady speed of 20mph and 30mph and found that the car used 10 percent more fuel at 20mph. However Robert stresses that the fuel consumption of a car travelling at a steady speed has no relevance at all to urban driving conditions where there are constant cycles of acceleration and braking. He estimates using the model for the EU urban test cycle that keeping a car to a maximum speed of 20 mph as opposed to 30mph actually reduced fuel consumption by just over 10 percent. Using his own measurements he has found that careful driving at 20mph can reduce fuel consumption by more than 20 percent. The slower speed allows drivers to anticipate hazards and obstacles and coast past them, whereas at 30mph drivers have to use their brakes to bring the speed down to a safe speed, but in doing so waste energy in the process.

Drivers fearful of cycling – download the press release "[Would-be cyclists are afraid to get out of their cars through a lack of safe cycle routes - Brake and Green Flag findings - 7 June 2007](#)" from the website of BRAKE the road safety charity website: <http://www.brake.org.uk/index.php?p=1300>



Notes from the Interview with Robert Huxford (ctd)

Black houses: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_house

St Paul's Cathedral: <http://www.stpauls.co.uk/>

Robert describes different granite setts in the road way at the north end of St John's Gate, one of which is Mouth Sorrel Granite from Leicestershire: <http://www.aditnow.co.uk/mines/Mountsorrel-Granite-Quarry/>

English Heritage has published a series of guides under its "Streets for All" series....

<http://www.helm.org.uk/server/show/category.19637>

Educational resource for building stone from English Heritage:

http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/upload/pdf/building_in_stone.pdf

Search the resource archive of English Heritage here:

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.1505>