Here is a history of permaculture gatherings in North American and International Permaculture Convergences. The list was compiled by reviewing the calendar section of the Permaculture Activist combined with a bit of Internet research. A very few non-permaculture events are included because they are closely related. In most cases, I give the date, the name of the event, the location, and the name of the contact person/center. There is also a section at the end for the international and continental convergences.

I compiled this list as a bit of history for the overall movement. It provides an indication of where permaculture has been most active over the years.

Please send in information on other permaculture gatherings to make this list more comprehensive.

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May 8-10, 1981, Maritime Region Permaculture Conference, Corbett, Oregon. More than 250 people participated in the second Northwest permaculture conference hosted by the Friends of the Trees.


August 8-10, 1986, 2nd International Permaculture Conference. The Evergreen State College, Olympia Washington. 700 people attended from around the world and around the USA.

November 1989 to March 1990 (to be held sometime between). North American Permaculture Designer’s Gathering. Location to be announced. This appeared in the May 1989 Activist. Sue Colpas-Ross at Nobody’s Mountain, TN was the contact person. Did this ever happen?


9-12, 1992, 7th Annual Eastern Permaculture Conference, Central New England, David Jacke. October


June 24-26, 1995, 2nd West Coast Permaculture Convergence, Orleans, California, Sandy Bar Ranch.


August 30-September 1, 1996, 10-year Reunion of the Central Rocky Mountain Permaculture Institute,. Basalt Colorado. CRMPI.


September 24-26, 1999, Northwest Permaculture Gathering, Dexter, Oregon, Lost Valley Center.


August 3-6, 2000, 7th Annual Southeastern Permaculture Gathering. Celo, NC, Tony Kleese.


May 21-30, 2004, Village Building Convergence, Portland, Oregon. City Repair Project. (not specifically permaculture, but permaculture has always had a strong role.)

June 13-20, 2004, “Build Here Now” Natural Building Convergence. Taos, NM, Lama Foundation. [note that this year this gathering did not include permaculture in it’s title.]

July 9-17, 2005. 9th Continental Bioregional Congress. Black Mountain, NC, Earthhaven Village. [The Bioregional Congresses have always had a strong showing of permaculturists. This one was hosted at a prominent permaculture ecovillage.]

March 10-11, 2006, Permaculture Convergence, Occidental, California.


ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD


[Richard Archer in a recent post from Australia said “In Australia there are many small grass-roots organizations but no national body. The grass-roots orgs are generally specific to a local area, they run PDCs and members help each other out with permie projects. There is not a whole lot of interaction between groups.”]

I think that not everyone in Australia would share Archer’s assessment. The Australian permaculturists have held a major national convergence every few years since 1986. I attended the APC in 1995 in Adelaide. It was a great convergence with hundreds of permaculture people from all around Australia. It was evidence of a vibrant permaculture movement with a lot of interconnections.]

Locations of the IPC’s (International Permaculture Convergence and Conference)
The convergence is for design course graduates only and precedes the public conference.


IPC 5, 1993, Gerlesborg (Sweden) and Copenhagen (Denmark).

IPC 6, 1996, Bridgetown and Perth, Western Australia.

IPC 7, 2005, Slovenia and Motovun, Croatia.


IPC X, September, 2011. Jordan, Middle East Their website is not up as of 12/28/10.

IPC XI, Cuba? The 2011 location was a toss-up between Jordan and Cuba. The Cuban permaculture stated their desire to host IPC XI.