ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND
GREEN BUILDINGS

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9.1 INTRODUCTION

Open Building is an approach to the design of buildings that is recognized internationally to represent a new wave in architecture, but a new wave with roots in the way ordinary built environment grows, regenerates and achieves wholeness.

NEXT21 is an experimental 18-unit housing project. It anticipates the more comfortable life urban households will characteristically enjoy in the 21st Century. The project was conceived by Osaka Gas Corporation in collaboration with the NEXT21 planning team. The NEXT21 Construction Committee developed the basic plan and design. Its objectives were:

- Using resources more effectively through systemized construction
- Creating a variety of residential units to accommodate varying households
- Introducing substantial natural greenery throughout a high-rise structure
- Creating a wildlife habitat within urban multi-family housing
- Treating everyday waste and drainage onsite within the building
- Minimizing the building's compound burden on the environment
- Using energy efficiently by means including fuel cells
- Making a more comfortable life possible without increasing energy consumption

Figure 56: General view