Safdie became one of the heroes of the world's fair — Habitat brought him building assignments in Puerto Rico, Israel, and several American cities. He became a world-famous theorist of housing and published his views in two important books. As the years passed, he came to recognize some of the flaws in his original theories — he discovered that it was not as easy as he had hoped it would be to bring down costs. Nevertheless, he and Habitat (which is still in use) had made everyone look in a new way at the problems of building places to live. "Housing design," wrote one architectural critic, "will never be quite the same."

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