

SOCIETY OF
ARCHITECTURAL
HISTORIANS

CALL FOR PAPERS

Society of Architectural Historians 2025 Annual International Conference April 30–May 4 in Atlanta, Georgia

Conference Chair: Mohammad Gharipour, PhD, SAH Vice President, University of Maryland

The Society of Architectural Historians is now accepting abstracts for its 78th Annual International Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, April 30–May 4, 2025. **Please submit an abstract no later than 11:59 p.m. CDT on June 5, 2024**, to one of the 51 thematic sessions, the Graduate Student Lightning Talks or the Open Sessions for the Atlanta conference. SAH encourages submissions from architectural, landscape, and urban historians; museum curators; preservationists; independent scholars; architects; scholars in related fields; and members of SAH chapters, Affiliate Groups and partner organizations.

Thematic sessions and Graduate Student Lightning Talks (GSLT) are listed below. The session selection committee reviewed the submitted proposals and composed a program that represents a range of time periods and will be illustrative of wide regional distribution. If your research topic is not a good fit for one of the thematic sessions, please submit your abstract to the Open Sessions; Open Sessions are available for those whose research topic does not match any of the thematic sessions. Please note that those submitting papers for the Graduate Student Lightning Talks must be graduate students at the time the talk is being delivered (April 30– May 4, 2025). Instructions and deadlines for submitting to thematic sessions, GSLT and Open Sessions are the same.

Submission Guidelines:

1. Confirmed 2025 Session Chairs are not eligible to submit to the Call for Papers
2. Abstracts must be under 300 words.
3. The title cannot exceed 65 characters, including spaces and punctuation.
4. Abstracts and titles must follow the Chicago Manual of Style.
5. Only one abstract per conference by an author or co-author may be submitted.
6. A maximum of three (3) authors per abstract will be accepted.
7. Please attach a two-page CV in PDF format.

Abstracts are to be submitted online using the link below.

[SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACT](#)

Abstracts should define the subject and summarize the argument to be presented in the proposed paper. The content of that paper should be the product of well-documented original research that is primarily analytical and interpretive, rather than descriptive in nature. Papers cannot have been previously published or presented in public except to a small, local audience (under 100 people). All abstracts will be held in confidence during the review and selection process, and only the Session Chair and Conference Chair will have access to them.

All Session Chairs have the prerogative to recommend changes to the abstract to ensure it addresses the session theme, and to suggest editorial revisions to a paper in order to make it satisfy session guidelines. It is the

responsibility of the Session Chairs to inform Speakers of those guidelines, as well as of the general expectations for participation in the session and the annual conference. Session Chairs reserve the right to withhold a paper from the program if the author has not complied with those guidelines.

Please Note: Each Speaker and Session Chair is expected to fund their own travel and expenses to Atlanta, Georgia. SAH has a limited number of [conference fellowships](#) for which Speakers and Session Chairs may apply. However, SAH's funding is not sufficient to support the expenses of all Speakers and Session Chairs. Speakers and Session Chairs must register and establish membership in SAH for the 2025 conference by **September 30, 2024** and are required to pay the non-refundable conference registration fee as a show of their commitment.

Atlanta Key Dates

June 5, 2024	Abstract submission deadline
August 1, 2024	Session Chairs complete notification to all persons who submitted abstract regarding status of submission.
August 14, 2024	Session chair and speaker registration opens
August 14, 2024	Annual Conference Fellowship applications open
September 30, 2024	Deadline for speaker and session chair registration (non-refundable) and membership in SAH
September 30, 2024	Deadline for conference fellowship applications
January 6, 2025	Speakers submit complete drafts of papers to session chairs
January 7, 2025	Early registration opens and you may now add events to your existing registration and/or sign up for tours via Eventbrite
February 10, 2025	Session chairs return papers with comments to speakers
April 4, 2025	Speakers complete any revisions and distribute copies of their paper to the session chair and the other session speakers
April 30-May 4, 2025	SAH 2025 Annual International Conference Atlanta, Georgia Hilton Atlanta

List of Paper Sessions

2025 Sessions

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Reconstruction and the New "South"

Revising Histories of Post-Conflict/Disaster Reconstruction

Roots to Skylines: Hybrid Labor and Planetary Building

Scarcity and Adaptation

Secular Modernity as Racial Colonial Construct

Sounding Spaces: Acoustic Legacies Across Architectural Eras

Strategies of Transfer and Translation in Housing

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The Architecture of US Empire

The Multisensory, the Emotive and the Built Environment

The Publicity Spectrum: The Production of Fame and Work in Architecture

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Paper Session Descriptions

Architectural Culture of Public Health and Early Modern Adriatic

The Adriatic region is notable for its early advances in the field of public health, with the implementation of first-ever quarantines in Dubrovnik and Venice, integrated with elaborate anti-epidemiological lazaretto complexes in the seaports and on the frontiers. Legislation on urban form emphasised ventilation and regulated complex water and food supply infrastructures. In addition, due to the highly militarised nature of the area and the constant occupational hazards faced by seafarers, military and naval hospitals, as well as asylums for the mentally ill, were common structures.

This panel aims to explore the architectural culture of public health from around 1400 to 1800, focusing on the solutions found in the Adriatic in a comparative perspective, ranging from the regulation and form of the city to the large-scale lazaretto and hospital complexes. It will explore the material implications of public health measures, arguing that they already strongly impacted architectural practice and urban form in the late medieval and early modern periods. By exploring anti-epidemiological and other health-related structures, the panel will also address questions of territory, boundary and accessibility. It seeks to explore parallels between urban systems and architectural implications of public health and welfare management in different early modern political realities in the region and beyond by shifting the scholarly gaze between Italy, the lands of the Austrian Crown, and the Balkans, as well as introducing comparisons in the larger Mediterranean area. Papers may, for example, discuss how political and religious implications shaped the architectural culture of health structures in the early modern period. Papers on actors, networks and gender issues related to architecture for health are also encouraged.

Session Chair: Jasenka Gudelj, Ca' Foscari University of Venice

Architectural Histories of Adaptation

“Adaptation” appears frequently in global conversations about climate change, but the term is not unique to this discourse. Its roots stretch back to ancient Greece and seventeenth and eighteenth-century natural philosophy, whose proponents pinpointed humankind’s ability to adapt in response to a varied and changing world. The concept prevailed in the nineteenth century, as natural scientists systematically documented and organized life across the globe, and through the emerging field of anthropology, whose adaptation thesis cemented racial hierarchies and gave rise to modern eugenics. Western architects are also complicit in this regard, creating zoos, horticultural landscapes, natural history museums, and other institutions that helped structure societies’ relationship to the natural world. More recently, adaptation has offered contested ground between neoliberal policy makers and grassroots social activists in discussions regarding the existential climate crisis.

In view of climate change’s asymmetrical urgency today, this panel seeks to historicize and unpack a globally and politically capacious understanding of adaptation. How have adaptive theories and beliefs—beyond framings of innovation and sustainability—guided the actions

of designers, builders, and their patrons in non-western geographies? And how can feminist, queer, Indigenous, and other decolonial responses to ecological change shift our understanding of adaptation today by lifting the long shadow of colonial scientific culture? As a counterpoint to Western male narratives, this panel invites contributions by authors whose work prioritizes the beliefs and practices of alternative knowledge keepers. We especially welcome papers using methods drawn from ethnography, postcolonial and decolonial studies, eco-feminism, and other intersectional fields that stand to expand our understanding of responsive adaptation and its diverse experiences. Contributions by underrepresented scholars are particularly welcome, as are those from researchers working on the thresholds of architectural history and its allied disciplines.

This panel is organized by the SAH Climate Change and Architectural History Affiliate Group.

Session Chairs: Ana Ozaki, University of Virginia; and Dustin Valen, Toronto Metropolitan University

Architectural Histories of Building Material Reuse in Modernity

The 19th and 20th centuries have been marked by a historically unprecedented proliferation of ruins and rubble across the world. Grand urban renewal schemes, industrialized warfare and architectural obsolescence drove accelerated cycles of demolition and new construction, leaving mountains of debris behind. Documenting and analyzing the destructive aspects of modernity has become a crucial part of the critical currents of architectural history today. This panel seeks to expand that inquiry by investigating how demolition waste and postwar rubble have been handled, transformed and reused in the wake of destruction.

A growing body of literature documents pre-modern practices of building material reuse, reaching now beyond the history of Spolia in Roman and Medieval architecture. Simultaneously, the current debate on circular building positions the practice of component reuse as fundamental to sustainable architecture. In those debates, the past two centuries remain a historical lacuna. Yet it was in that period that the linear - extractivist, consumerist, wasteful - model took hold over the industry, profession, and historiography of architecture. By accounting for building material reuse in modernity, this panel aims to bring forward architectural histories that complicate these existing narratives while helping to identify moments of critical resistance, together with alternative practices and imaginaries.

We seek papers based on the original archival research positioning the practice of building material reuse in the political, economic and environmental context of 19th and 20th-century modernity; papers, which expand the disciplinary boundaries to account for the history of ownership, procurement, logistics, and trade of second-hand materials, as well as their use by self-builders, workers, engineers, architects, and administrations. Of particular interest are contributions concerning attempts to formalize building material reuse in industrialized contexts, as well as those that look beyond the centers of capitalist modernity, locating

practices and imaginaries of reuse in socialist and postcolonial histories of architecture.

Session Chairs: Lionel Devlieger, Ghent University; and Adam Przywara, University of Fribourg

Architecture and Internationalism: Beyond the International Style

Architectural historians have written extensively about the role of international institutions in architecture and demonstrated how the history of modern architecture was defined through regionalism, nationalism, globalization, and cosmopolitanism. Despite the critical role internationalism played in the history of modern architecture and the awkwardly named “international style,” the term has not been as closely theorized in architectural scholarship as in other disciplines. Given the significant changes in internationalism in the twentieth century, a renewed study of the concept and its architectural outcomes is now timely.

In the first half of the twentieth century, internationalism was tied to a particular amalgamation of world citizenship, peace, human rights, free trade, and economic development. It was used by feminists, socialists, and liberal intellectuals and to create large-scale institutions such as the League of Nations, UNESCO, and the United Nations. By the second half of the twentieth century, its meaning shifted alongside popular anti-colonial and anti-imperialist causes. Internationalism became associated with restructuring capital at a more global scale and was part of a postwar project of reconsolidating the hierarchies of global imperialism. To complicate things further, in the Soviet Union and the Non-Aligned Movement, nationalism and internationalism were tactically intertwined to support new nations as an act of anti-imperialist solidarity.

This panel looks broadly at the many definitions and shifting landscape of internationalism in the twentieth century. Why did architects and architectural historians rely on and reconstruct a perceived opposition between internationalism and traditionalism? How can internationalism be used to understand technical and aesthetic practices at the margins of architectural modernism, such as socialist realism or self-build housing? We welcome, among others, papers that historicize the term with alternative and collaborative design practices and examine forms of solidarity within internationalist architecture.

Session Chairs: Michael Moynihan, Syracuse University; and Ecem Saricayir, Cornell University

Architecture and the *kulturkritik*

The architectural critic emerged as a distinct category in the twentieth century but has taken many forms. This panel is concerned with the conception of criticism that emerged in the 1920s, when English critics such as I. A. Richards and F. R. and Q. D. Leavis developed a new paradigm for the analysis and judgement of cultural artefacts. In the stringent project developed by the Leavises in their journal *Scrutiny*, an attempt was made to elevate criticism to the highest form of intellectual endeavour, providing the moral ground and

training necessary for social flourishing. Richards' project was extended in North America with the 'New Criticism' movement of close reading and formal analysis. Francis Mulhern has argued that these innovations were part of a broader tradition of *kulturkritik*, recognisable in the work of Julien Benda, Karl Mannheim, Thomas Mann, José Ortega y Gasset, and extending into the late-twentieth century with the development of cultural studies.

Whilst new paradigms and targets of criticism resulting from social formations and political movements have displaced the centrality of *kulturkritik*, recent scholarship in English literature and intellectual history has shown the enduring legacy of the practice and institution building activities of *kulturkritik*—both in the metropole and in colonial and post-colonial contexts.

This panel is interested in the origins and legacy of the *kulturkritik* and its implications for architectural criticism, which remains under-explored in architectural historiography, seeking contributions that explore national, colonial and postcolonial geographies and interrogate the influence of *kulturkritik* in architectural discourse through (but not limited to):

- The direct influence of *kulturkritik* on architectural media, histories, and criticism
- Concepts, categories and operations of valuation in architectural criticism
- Histories of *kulturkritik* institutions or discourses that targeted architecture
- Biographies of architectural critics that deployed *kulturkritik*

Session Chairs: Nick Beech, University of Birmingham; and Jessica Kelly, London Metropolitan University

Architecture of Learning

The studio, lecture hall, and seminar room as spaces of learning are ubiquitous in design schools and across higher education. Many of us pulled all-nighters in studio, took notes in lecture hall, and nervously presented in seminar rooms on our way to graduate degrees. Now, many of us continue those same traditions as we teach to a new generation of students in spaces very similar to the ones in which we sat. It may be argued, however, that some things have changed. Our students are all digitally native. A world-wide pandemic has opened up new possibilities on how we may use technology to expand the boundaries of the historical classroom. There is a recognition of a range of learning styles as well as an increased recognition of neurodiversity. Clearly, we do not all learn in the same way, yet our current studios and classrooms are surprisingly similar across all of our campuses.

Very little research exists that examines the relationship between how students learn and the spaces in which they learn. This session invites proposals for papers that critically examine the role that architecture plays in learning. How do certain spaces support different types of learning? How are diverse teaching modalities accommodated in the brick and mortar of higher education and K-12 classrooms? How has technology impacted the physical space in which we now teach? We invite contributions that present built, unbuilt, or theoretical projects from any era or geographical site. We are especially interested in work

that challenges pre-conceived notions relative to studio and classroom spaces and offer exemplary models for future educational buildings.

Session Chairs: Marc J Neveu, Arizona State University; and Mohammad Z. Alrajhi, King Saud University

Architectures of Precarity: Designing the Existenzminimum

While *'Existenzminimum'* retains overwhelming associations with the historical Western avant-garde, the question of minimal living is acutely materialized worldwide across refugee camps, isolated council estates, and one-person urban households. In the light of current debates on resources, consumption, and social justice, *Existenzminimum* requires theoretical updating and a widening of its geographic scope. Despite "minimum" often being used as a code for aesthetic reduction, *Existenzminimum* originally incorporated diverging ideas for future societies. In 1932, Karel Teige opposed the idea of small nuclear family dwellings, as implemented in the mass-housing *Siedlungen* of Weimar Germany, with radical experiments that upended family-based societal reproduction. Hannes Meyer's *Co-op Interieur* (1926) and Moisei Ginzburg's 'social condensers' (1927) regarded minimal housing for free individuals as vehicles towards a new societal order.

And yet, most such visions have been top-down constructs, with those planning a "minimum to exist" seldom the ones living in it. *Existenzminimum* entails questions of durability, stability, sustainability, materiality, and social equity. Provisional housing and emergency tents are used for decades, while the mid-term family dwellings become increasingly unattainable constructs for architects, stakeholders, and residents alike. Whether in relation to emergency shelter or cooperative housing, those who are told "this is enough" resist (often Western) patronizing exploitation.

This session aims to investigate the projections of "minimum" and "existence" onto architectures openly designed for—or against—precarity. We propose a critical re-evaluation of *Existenzminimum* through the triangulation of (social and regulatory) norms, economy of resources, and aesthetics. This session welcomes histories of housing, of voluntary and involuntary users or planners, or of built manifestations of "the minimum to exist", focused on moments that shed light upon conventionally overlooked processes, projections and consequences. Non-Western and/or non-modern case studies are especially encouraged.

Session Chairs: Anna-Maria Meister, Kunsthistorisches Institut; and Irina Davidovici, ETH Zürich

Architectures of Racial Exclusion After the US Fair Housing Act

Racial segregation in housing and neighborhoods has proven as vexing a problem as any in the 20th– and 21st-century USA. A reflection of larger patterns of bias as well as a generator of new inequalities in its own right, civil rights activists and scholars, including historians, social scientists, and urban planners, have worked for generations to dismantle barriers to

open housing and racial integration. Their efforts have focused on exposing a range of practices, overt and covert, including deed restrictions, redlining, screening and steering, restrictive zoning, the geography of infrastructure, school catchment areas, and marketing.

What about architecture? Americans — like many others — have long used design to define and defend social, and neighborhood, boundaries through a combination of physical enclaving, the programming of buildings and communities (what and who gets included and how), and architectural form and style. Early planned developments for the well to do, for instance, turned houses inward to face private common squares (Louisburg) or were gated (Llewellyn Park). Concerns about social cohesion and assimilation in the Progressive Era led reformers to promote concepts like “Neighborhood Unit.”

Since passage of the landmark Fair Housing Act of 1968, however, which outlawed nearly all forms of overt discrimination in housing, design has only grown in importance as a tool for exclusion on the basis of race, especially in housing markets, mostly in the mid-Atlantic and South, with large and upwardly mobile Black communities, such as Atlanta and Washington, D.C.

This panel invites empirically and conceptually rich papers that build upon the pathbreaking work of scholars like architectural historian Dianne Harris (*Little White Houses*) and sociologist George Lipsitz (*How Racism Takes Place*) to document and analyze the use of architecture, site planning, and landscape to code housing, to paraphrase Lipsitz, in the White spatial imaginary.

Session Chair: Matthew G. Lasner, California College of the Arts and University California, Berkeley

Architectures of Solidarity

Since the 2020's #BLM protests, “solidarity” has emerged as an important keyword in architecture, with SAH's leadership declaring: “As a Society committed to the highest standards of debate and critique, we stand in solidarity with the peaceful protesters... who collectively advance the cause of justice and, by their actions, help keep democracy alive.... How does feeling solidarity with protests of racial justice transform our scholarship? This session invites contributions that demonstrate solidarity in the built and constructed environments: What/when are architectures of solidarity? How do architectural historians express solidarity in practice? Papers may examine the role of public places and buildings in galvanising and sustaining minority civic actions and counter cultures at both local and global scales, ranging from the defence of civil liberties, environmental activism, anti-colonial and anti-war demonstrations to occupy movements. They may extend the historical awareness of these larger mobilisations to more recent challenges to neoliberal expansion, political hegemony, and environmental exploitation that seek redress for various forms of social and economic discrimination of minority agendas or social groups. Papers may reflect on the temporary appropriation and transformation of urban public spaces for these agendas. They may examine the ephemeral elements and physical architectures of

solidarity such as barricades, encampments, public utilities, temporary housing, community spaces and gardens, signage, monuments and art works and also the virtual presences that sustain their politics beyond the temporal limits of a specific event. This panel invites precedent setting scholarship that empowers forms of social engagement and cultures of urban activism and that foregrounds minority agendas.

Organized by the SAH Minority Scholars Affiliate Group

Session Chairs: Ipek Türeli, McGill University; and Anoma Pieris, Melbourne School of Design

Architectures of the Littoral Zone

The littoral, an indeterminate space interfacing land and ocean, is a zone mediating systems, territories, and political designations. Extending from the high-water mark to the continental shelf, it encompasses a unique set of ecologies including mudflats, mangroves, barrier islands and salt marshes mediating land and deep sea. These ecologies that provided resilience to coastal lands have been uniquely subject to environmental threat. In most parts of the world they have been erased, pushed aside, or radically modified, being thickly settled, docked, wharfed, and fronted to make way for human sustenance, settlement, but most significantly for commercial trade.

The Littoral mediates the regulated systems of the land and the open networks of the sea. Its distinct architectures of harbors, ports, marinas, shipyards - and more recently - floating villages, oil platforms, and offshore wind farms maintain the outposts of global capitalist development both internal and external to the nation-state. Free-trade zones dot its edges - a source of corporatist revenue unrestricted by the state juridical order. Its populations are far more diverse than state interiors, populated by both a global managerial middle class and a vast transient (often denationalized) labor force. The littoral also expands the reach of the nation-state. Spurred by a UN convention that undersea geological features cannot be claimed as national territory, land reclamation in the South China Sea transforms coral reefs into artificial islands, carving out a vast swath of ocean as a sovereign littoral zone.

This session invites papers that address littoral architectures in any historical period or geographic region. These papers may address cultural, social, political, technological, material, or labor issues specific to architectures of the littoral zone. We are especially interested in papers that address environmental transformation of coastal zones, networks of migration, and relationships between oceanic exchange and the negotiation of the nation-state.

Session Chairs: Diana Martinez, Tufts University; and Peter Minosh, Northeastern University

Beyond the Postcolonial: Methods, Problems, Openings

Since the publication of Edward Said's *Orientalism* in 1978, the field of postcolonial studies

has expanded across the humanities and social sciences. However, what was originally intended to critique colonialism and reveal its technologies of power and violence has gradually become devoid of this foundational political impetus. Employed to signify a range of chronologies, geographies, and theoretical approaches, the potency of the term has been diluted, with meaning(s) further complicated by variations that have arisen from translations and encounters with different disciplines and languages. Within architectural history, the simultaneous explosion of usage and implosion of significance has led to widespread albeit vague application, with “postcolonial architecture” simply connoting periodization in what has come to be known as the “Global South.”

This panel seeks critical reexamination of postcolonial terminology, focusing on its utility and limitations in architectural discourse and research. We aim to explore the nuanced ways postcolonial frameworks have been mobilized, question their continued relevance, and explore alternative models. Although not the first to consider such questions, architectural history has yet to significantly contribute to this larger conversation. Following reappraisal in other disciplines, we aspire to revive the self-reflexivity inherent to postcolonial critique to ask: how might we move beyond the postcolonial?

Contributors should reflect on the use of postcolonial terminology, assessing its validity and valences, while considering motivations for continued usage. Rather than exhume the corpus of historical examples, we encourage contributions that engage with the term’s failure and obsolescence, including problems with the “postcolonial” as well as the importation of terms from other disciplines. We especially invite meditation on new perspectives that might enable movement away from the colonality of the discipline itself. This session will foster discussion on new methodologies and pedagogies, ensuring that postcolonial concepts retain their significance in contemporary architectural history.

Session Chairs: Riad Kherdeen, University of California, Berkeley; and Johanna Sluiter, University of Bern

Black Wealth: Architectures of Success and Precarity

Architecture has long reflected the power of black achievement and the anxiety of black precarity. The case of Prempeh I, the king of the Ashanti people of Ghana from 1888 to 1931, is instructive. Sitting atop a kingdom that amassed wealth through the trade in captives and luxury goods, Prempeh I lived in a palace wherein earthen roundhouses with thatched roofs formed a labyrinth of enclosed courtyards in Kumasi. Nonetheless, his riches could not save him from the British colonizers who raided his palace and exiled him to the Seychelles after he voiced resistance to their rule in 1895. And once he arrived in the Indian Ocean archipelago, he lived in a creole house that matched the architectural style of British colonies at the time (Nelson, 2016; McCaskie, 2007). Closer to home, architecture still recalls black success and precarity. A tour of the Buckhead neighborhood of Atlanta reveals that architectures of black affluence can sometimes feel indistinguishable from white suburban landscapes. That said, racism shapes the decisions that black people make when choosing where to live and when purchasing homes, undertaking renovations, and bequeathing

property.

This panel chronicles black wealth through an examination of architecture. We will explore how the built environment gauges the challenges that black people face as they accrue wealth in a racist world. Some of the questions that we will consider include: How does the architecture of black wealth reflect black consciousness? How have black people used buildings and landscapes to convey resistance and triumph? How might transcultural and transhistorical perspectives help us understand the architectures of black success and precarity worldwide? This panel seeks both topical and methodologically oriented papers from any time period or region.

Session Chair: Dwight Carey, Amherst College

Building Manuals as a Global and Local Medium of Development

Recent architectural history research examines the knowledge transfers between different regions of the world in postwar development programs, revealing the persistence of colonial narratives and the renegotiation of development on a local level. Within this framework, there is a predominant focus on manuals as a medium for expertise transfer from the Global North to the Global South, overshadowing to some extent the South's self-crafted building manuals that disseminate construction experiences within the region and across the South, questioning the North's imaginaries of the South. This panel aims to spotlight manuals crafted by institutions, organizations, and individuals for and within the Global South, asking how these manuals differ in intentions, expertise notions, knowledge and technology transfer approaches, labor considerations, and economic interests. Rather than pursuing a universal history of manuals, the panel embraces diverse histories of manuals across the Global South.

We propose to connect the discourse on building manuals with their longstanding tradition, such as China's Yingzao Fashi (营造法式, 1100–1103), in order to question the "rediscovery" of a supposedly lost "local" building tradition in post-war manuals by foreign experts. Given that these manuals often promote "new" technology and construction methods, emphasizing affordability, simplicity, and user-friendliness, we aim to inquire about the specific standards they adhere to. We invite situated histories exploring the production and usage of building manuals, and their embedded technological concepts. Questions may include how technology concepts in manuals connect to local construction practices, as transmitted through historical manuals. Did manuals produced within the South generate alternative concepts of technology or adopt terms such as appropriate, alternative, and intermediate technologies? Additionally, how did manuals reflect the implications of industrialization and "modern" technology? Through our panel, we aim to illuminate the intersection of global architectural history, construction history, and the history of technology.

Session Co-Chairs: Frederike Lausch, ETH Zürich; and Jie Shen, The University of Tokyo

Colonial Public Works: Architecture Beyond Labor Subalternity

The history of architecture and urban planning in former colonized territories has been shaped by canonical narratives and single agents (Lagae&Boonen, 2020). The question of architectural authorship has been at the center of most colonial studies, whether they focus on the designer, the engineer, the owner, or the political-administrative decision-maker who approved the territorial infrastructure, the urban settlement, or the building. “Can the subaltern speak” (Spivak, 1988) overcoming the architectural history focused on the designing elite? We welcome scholars to critically engage with the representativeness of labor subalternity and its importance throughout the process of architectural design and construction, questioning: who were those workers whose role was crucial to the colonial sphere, but who remained underrepresented in the history of colonial architecture? How did their labor, presence and skills influence the building site, construction methods and the project/design?

This session intersects the history of colonial architecture and the theme of labor, encouraging scholars to submit papers that address the agency of labor in the Public Works Departments during the late colonial period, between the 19th and 20th centuries. Contributions related to the African and Asian contexts are particularly appreciated, as are those related to the history of colonial architecture focusing on the relationship between project design and unskilled labor and analyzing the impact of subalternised collective subjects (workers) who remained largely “hidden” in both colonial and postcolonial narratives. This session seeks for papers that explore the liaison between architecture, colonialism and labor, addressing: i) construction methods and skills; ii) construction sites; iii) authorship; iv) gender and race; v) division of labor. Researches based on both case studies and methodological approaches to the theme are welcome to enable a discussion on the impact of labor within the colonial architectural effort and how to approach it from a theoretical perspective.

Session Chairs: Ana Vaz Milheiro, Dinâmia’Cet – Iscte; and Francesca Vita, Dinâmia’Cet - Iscte

Colonialism, Christianity, and Modern Architectures of Occupation

As scholars continue to consider the oft-overlooked roles played by religion in the expansion of modern European empires across the globe, it has become clear that Christian institutions participated in the operation and stability of empires in places where Christianity was a minority faith or non-existent. While traditional missionary work has been extensively explored, many other practices and associated architectures remain to be studied. Indeed, in Africa, Asia, and beyond, sanctuaries, schools, hospitals and other buildings served both the colonizers and the colonized, thereby engaging in the so-called civilizing mission of modern

colonial projects worldwide. These buildings—large and small, conspicuous and quotidian—existed in major population centers, but were also erected in rural areas far from cities where they served essential needs in small communities. As such, they transcended the realm of the landmark cathedral.

This panel welcomes submissions that explore the built environments created by Christian institutions within European empires during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries that contributed to—or opposed—colonialist agendas through means beyond explicit proselytizing or conversion work. Questions one might address include: How did religious institutions serve colonizer communities and to what ends? What role did architectural design play in colonialist communication for different populations in occupied territories? How did the relationships between religious and secular institutions generate specific forms of architecture? In what ways did indigenous people and organizations engage with, and resist, such interventions? Comparative papers and those addressing structures that are not traditional church buildings are particularly encouraged, as are those that also consider, in part, the postcolonial function of extant colonial-era built environments.

Session Chair: Daniel E. Coslett, Drexel University

Contested Architectural Heritage and Literature

In *Nine Lives: Death and Life in New Orleans* (D. Baum, 2009) the cultural heritage, architecture and urban qualities of the American South's highly segregated city emerge through the voices of nine diverse characters. The novel communicates the difficult history of the city's architectural transformation after Hurricane Betsy (1965) and before its devastating destruction by Hurricane Katrina (2005). The reader navigates through a multiplicity of perspectives that communicate conflicting or even dissonant experiences of the city and its architectural heritage. *Berlin Tales* (H. Constantine, 2009) offers a palimpsest of narratives about the multicultural richness of the German city's neighborhoods and architecture, while *Death is Hard Work* (K. Khalifa, 2019) depicts Damascus and Syria when buildings are bombed and families attempt to continue honoring ages old traditions. Despite literature's fictional nature, researchers across disciplines and times (R. Park; A. Pérez-Gómez; D. Massey) have argued for its capacity to communicate historical facts and capture the palpable life of cities and their architecture. Novels and short stories manage to convey intangible elements of architectural cultural heritage, like their spatial atmospheres and affordances. While the interconnections between cultural heritage and literature have been explored in recent works (e.g. *Footprint #34, 'Narrating Shared Futures'*), this session focuses specifically on the power of literature to bring forward multiple voices of contested architectural heritage.

We are interested in exploring how literature—as an analytical, critical, and imaginative tool—can offer insights and make sense of conflicting values when architects interact with contested heritage sites. How do the narratives of literature, through its multiple perspectives and voices, inform architects about the experiential and intangible aspects of contested heritage? How can literature provide a fuller spectrum of history for such

heritage? Papers bridging different cultural and geographic contexts or time periods are particularly welcome.

Session Chairs: Angeliki Sioli, Delft University of Technology; and Aleksandar Staničić, Delft University of Technology

Counterinterpretation: Deep South African American Architecture

Working to foreground erased, suppressed, and misrepresented histories of African American contributions in the built landscape, this session seeks contributions that use interdisciplinary methods of research and documentation to tell the whole story of architectural history in the American South. Weaving design and craft across time, this session aims to reframe the role of African Americans in architectural production from the colonial era to midcentury-modernism. In the colonial and antebellum eras, the histories and narratives of oppressors typically overshadow acts of resistance, innovation, and entrepreneurship, and give little agency to the African Americans who built the nation. How can scholarship reveal that the incorporation of African vernacular practices was as important to the nation's aesthetic identity as interpretations of Greek and Roman architecture? What architectural icons and community anchors have been overlooked or demolished amid riots, sanctioned trauma, and infrastructural impositions that radically reshaped cities such as Tulsa and Atlanta? How can architectural historians, preservationists, and educators finally assert a fully representative account of the built environment in the American South as the nation approaches the Semiquincentennial and key anniversaries in the civil rights movement?

The work of little-known designers, craftspeople, or collaborative networks, as well as projects that challenge established narratives at canonical sites, are particularly welcome. Moving beyond documentary records and into public history, outreach, and sustainable heritage tourism, the chairs are interested in projects that use research and storytelling to enact place-keeping, preservation education, and community-based policy development to ensure the intact survival and resiliency of topic sites. Presenting histories that have long been marginalized, this session aspires to reflect on the enduring impact that African American architects, designers, and builders had on the Deep South by transcending the shackles of the plantation, the murder of Reconstruction, and the resistance against civil rights.

Session Chairs: Phillip Smith, American College of the Building Arts; and Danielle S. Willkens, Georgia Institute of Technology

Cross-Border Flows, Modernization, and East Asian Inland Cities

With East Asian countries increasingly integrated into global forces, the transnational flows of capital, commodities, and migratory movements have stimulated efforts to modernize their cities. This, in turn, has engendered unique modernization processes in East Asian countries. While framing cities as dynamic hubs of economic, cultural, and technological

advancement, these processes have involved specific reinterpretations of discourses of modernity within cross-border currents and processes.

Existing scholarship often concentrates on the coastal cities of East Asian countries, which serve as the vanguards of their international engagement—examples include Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Incheon, studied extensively for their modernization. However, insufficient attention has been paid to inland cities, such as Yichang, Sapporo, and Chuncheon. As various cities undergo distinct modernization processes, inland cities in East Asia manifest unique approaches compared to their coastal counterparts. The development of inland cities is influenced not only by cross-national exchanges—both cross-continental and intra-Asian—similar to those in coastal cities but also by the cross-regional influence of the latter as their hinterland. Crucially, cities, rather than being merely natural geographic entities or passive containers, serve as spaces where diverse social relations are intertwined and produced through practical activities. Consequently, beyond geographical borders, the flows of modernity across economic, cultural, and technological boundaries permeate inland cities, promoting urban development.

This session invites proposals for papers that critically engage with cross-border flows, modernization, and inland cities in East Asia across various spatial scales and different temporal and geographical contexts. We welcome submissions that concentrate on new theories, methodologies, archival sources, and approaches concerning inland areas in East Asia. Research on underrepresented cities, the reevaluation of existing definitions, and the mapping of the relationship between inland cities and related entities are particularly encouraged.

Session Chair: Yichi Zhang, Chongqing University

De-Colonizing the Other: Queer Spaces Beyond the Western Canon

The section on queer spatiality has become a recurrent feature at SAH conferences. Such a discourse mostly shows how queer spaces have served in modern times as a representation of the social status of their creators and patrons, or provided a refuge to escape from the repressive practices of a hetero-cis-normative structured power. However, the vast majority of contributions in the last twenty years predominantly focused on material from the cultural environments of North America and Western Europe.

Queer spaces – domestic, community, and public – are simultaneously subject to colonizing practices and to the enduring impacts of these dynamics which persist across diverse countries. Consequently, the specific issues related to the colonization of the Global South have made them exploited, invisible, misrepresented or underrepresented. We believe that it is necessary to bring decolonization approaches into the investigation of queer spatiality and to consider other cultural and geographical frameworks beyond the prevailing Western canon.

Discussing queer spatiality as an emancipatory strategy is thus in the grip of one dominant

Western cultural and political narrative. In contrast, the specifics of other cultures and emancipatory movements outside of it remain out of focus — experiences that present us with alternative ways of becoming, and stories of other possible knowledge.

We strongly encourage scholars to submit proposals that integrate decolonization methodologies actively into the investigation of queer spatiality and its complexities. By looking beyond the Western canon, we welcome papers that critically rethink the notions and contexts of queer spatiality, stressing and expanding its boundaries, emphasizing the diverse range of what can be construed as queer spaces. The session welcomes innovative proposals that challenge the prevailing narratives surrounding queer spatialities in Africa, Asia, South and Central America, Oceania and Eastern Europe.

Session Chairs: Facundo Juan Revuelta, University of Buenos Aires; and Ladislav Jackson, Brno University of Technology

Dividing Lines: The Legacy of the Interstate in the American City

From its beginning in 1956, the American Interstate Highway System was celebrated as a spatial articulation of the American promise of freedom and democracy. Indeed, architecture critic Reyner Banham delighted in the freeway as one of Los Angeles's four "ecologies" (Banham, 1971). At the same time, activists, urban planners, and architects understood highway construction as intimately intertwined with the "death" of vibrant and diverse urban centers (Jacobs, 1961). Although much has been written about the Interstate as a catalyst for suburbanization, and as a destructive force in once vital neighborhoods, architectural historians have paid less attention to the complex legacy of the highway system within urban centers.

This session seeks to explore such questions as: How did elevated concrete roadways transform the experience of the city, or function as new actors within the urban environment? What are the physical legacies of these massive infrastructural systems — those that were built and those that were never or only partially constructed? How did they divide communities or reinforce existing patterns of racial segregation? What role did architects, urban designers, and landscape architects play in reimagining land cleared for highway projects? We invite case studies of specific cities or projects, as well as synthetic or comparative analyses. We also invite papers that consider highways as new forms of urban identity, sites of resistance, or spaces that cultivated alternative communities.

A critical investigation of the legacy of the American highway systems is of particular importance now, as billions of dollars are being invested to repair or demolish them, create subterranean roadways, or mask their presence with new construction or green spaces. These schemes signal an opportunity to more fully consider the legacy of the Interstate vision and the ways in which it transformed the late twentieth-century American city.

Session Chairs: Lucy Maulsby, Northeastern University; and Amanda Lawrence, Northeastern University

Eco-Critical Explorations: Alternative Narratives of Pre-Modern Landscapes and Architectures

Throughout history and across diverse landscapes, the intricate relationship between architecture and nature has endured. This relationship is characterized by the multifaceted engagement of architecture with nature—utilization, exploitation, manipulation, and, at times, destruction. Despite this enduring connection, the longstanding commitment of architectural history to cultural, aesthetic, and technological dimensions has fostered a habitual perception that often distances architectural production from nature. Challenging this entrenched perspective, recent decades have witnessed significant works in architectural history that underscore the importance and encourage critical exploration of architecture's relationship with the environment. However, these endeavors have predominantly focused on the last two centuries, examining architectural products linked to modern global capitalism and shaped within the framework of growth and progress. Conspicuously absent from the discourse is the exploration of nature's entanglement in the built environment and landscapes of the pre-modern world.

Recent interdisciplinary works by scholars in anthropology, literary studies, history, and art history have unveiled the potentials of "eco-critical" inquiry in studying human artifacts. They suggest that recalibrating our lenses to foreground nature will shed new light on architecture and render visible unexplored relationships, intersections, and flows entwined in these artifacts.

This panel contemplates the contours of a pre-modern architectural history envisioned as the history of the co-production of architecture and nature. It seeks proposals that employ "nature" and "ecology" as lenses to pose novel questions and animate human and non-human actors and processes previously overlooked. Proposals exploring non-Western geographies and traditions are particularly encouraged. Scholars are invited to explore the potential of the "eco-critical" framework for pre-modern architectural history, unraveling the entanglements between nature and the built environment. The objective is to discuss issues including, but not limited to, labor, resource extraction and management, flows, seasonal cycles, agency of matter, agency of nature, nature-culture dialogue, and socio-natural imaginaries.

Session Chair: Sahar Hosseini, University of Pittsburgh

Erasure and Resistance: Indigenous Architecture and Settler Colonialism

Indigenous architecture throughout North America reflects ongoing impacts of settler colonialism. Settler colonialism has led to the erasure or transformation of traditional building practices through alienation from traditional lands, loss of living construction materials such as bison or tules, and disruption of passing on traditional building techniques through mandatory boarding school participation. European-American

settlement has adversely impacted even precontact or precolonial architecture, for example, colonizers flattened extensive Mississippian mounds for development and cut down through floors of Pueblo Bonito to reach pots that could be exhumed and shipped to Harvard's Peabody Museum.

Architecture has served as an apparatus of settler colonialism including missions built beginning in the 16th century for Christianization, assimilation, and cultural genocide, and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) administration, healthcare, and school buildings of the 19th and 20th centuries. More recent settler colonial federal architecture such as HUD housing, schools, and healthcare facilities are rarely culturally or climatically responsive.

Contemporary Indigenous architecture designed in collaboration with Indigenous communities or by Indigenous architects resists settler colonialism. Following Indigenous design principles, community-initiated facilities include housing, health care facilities, schools, tribal administration buildings, and tribal cultural centers and museums.

This session invites papers that consider settler colonialism in relation to a wide range of architecture built by or for Indigenous communities. Papers might address preserving traditional buildings and building practices, employing traditional knowledge and building techniques, integrating modern technologies with Indigenous principles to create hybrid architecture, or using traditional approaches to building on the land. Papers could focus on a specific building, building type, Indigenous community, or region; architecture associated with a particular period of policy; or the work of a particular architect. Session chairs welcome papers with any North American geographic focus, although topics concerning the southeastern United States would be especially pertinent.

Session Chairs: Anne Lawrason Marshall, University of Idaho; and Jason Tippeconnic Fox (Comanche/Cherokee), Idaho State Historic Preservation Office

Female Agency in Practice: Strategies, Tactics, and Maneuvers

In recent decades, scholars have started to reveal the influence of female professionals in shaping the built environment. Charlotte Perriand's modernist visions, Aino Aalto's timeless designs, and Denise Scott Brown's interdisciplinary analytical methods uncover the pivotal role that women have played in interior design, architecture, and urban planning, nuancing our perception of the male-dominated canon. This scholarship has highlighted the long-standing neglect of women's contributions to the built environment and appropriately attributes authorship to these females. However, knowledge regarding the specific tactics these women employed in their daily negotiations – vis-à-vis their boss, partner, client, co-workers, or society at large – remains limited.

This session explores the strategies used by women to establish themselves in professional roles and achieve agency in shaping the built environment. Authors should analyze a concept, a project, or a historical event from the perspective of a female designer, focusing on her ability to overcome patriarchal structures, media bias, and chauvinistic attitudes from

her peers. We are interested in, for example, how architect Noushin Ehsan used her diplomatic skills and determination in her organization of the International Conference of Women Architects in Ramsar (Iran, 1976), in immigrant Eliane Castelneau's subtle differentiations of traditional Moroccan hierarchies in her position as *inspectrice* of the region of Morocco's Meknes, or how architect Norma Merrick Sklarek applied her outstanding technical expertise in the design and execution of the 1976 American Embassy in Tokyo.

How did the female architect surmount the obstacles presented by sexism? What personal skills and maneuvers facilitated her acceptance as practitioner? How did she strategically align herself with her social setting to gain influence and control over her own scope of actions? By gathering various strategies and identifying important challenges and opportunities, this session seeks to contribute to the ongoing efforts to attain gender parity in architectural practice.

Session Chairs: Cathelijne Nuijsink, ETH Zürich; and Frida Grahn, USI Lugano

Forest Histories: The Architectures of Amazonia and Beyond

This session explores the global and local histories of the agencies and practices that have inquired and shaped what anthropologist Neil Lancelot Whitehead has critically called the world's "last frontier for the study of history": Amazonia. Currently threatened by deforestation, fire, and drought, the Amazon rainforest, which spans nine countries and is inhabited by more than thirty million people, is also the ancestral home of more than one million indigenous people and one of the most biodiverse regions on Earth. This call invites papers that analyze case studies from a transcalar account of design and land-use planning from pre-Columbian times to the present and emphasizes the need for architectural historians to consider how wilderness has been shaped and how architecture, cities, infrastructure, and agriculture have been implemented in the Amazon forest, raising important considerations about the relationality of human and more-than-human ecologies. Among the frameworks that could be pursued are, on the one hand, the critical examination of coloniality, governance, cycles of resource extraction, and development policies with their plans for urbanization, modernization, and industrialization that have triggered the loss of life and habitat in the Amazon forest—with profound effects on the global climate—and, on the other hand, new approaches oriented towards socio-ecological practices, thinking, and activism.

Topics may include the impacts of urban or rural construction; patterns of land tenure and migration; territorial projects of imperial and religious colonialism; socio-environmental restoration and recovery; processes of gentrification and segregation. We welcome papers by local and indigenous scholars and activists, as well as reflections on the ethics of mobilizing intersectional, decolonial epistemes and cosmoecological thinking. While papers focusing on Amazonia are preferred, we invite submissions that address similar issues in other forests, or even territories whose spatial histories of extractive colonization and capitalism are linked to the Amazon.

Session Chairs: Ricardo Avella, Delft University of Technology; and Vanessa Grossman, University of Pennsylvania

Graduate Student Lightning Talks

The Graduate Student Lightning Talks provide graduate students with the opportunity to test ideas, refine thoughts, and enhance presentation skills among a circle of empathetic and supportive peers. This session is composed of up to 16 five-minute talks of approximately 650–700 words each that allow graduate students to introduce new and original research in various stages of progress. In their presentations, students are encouraged to raise questions over the direction of their investigations, explore methodology, or present challenges they have encountered in the development of their ideas. Papers should be clearly and concisely presented, with focused and well-chosen images, in order to encourage thoughtful feedback from the audience during the question and answer period. Students at both the master's and PhD levels are invited to apply by submitting a succinct abstract of no more than 300 words. Authors/co-authors must be graduate students at the time of the conference and must present in person at the session. The SAH Board of Directors' Graduate Student Representative serves as chair of these popular five-minute presentations.

Session Chair: Charlette Caldwell, Columbia University

Green Buildings since 1970: Collaboration for Energy Conservation

The historiography of modern architecture has largely overlooked the increasingly important collaborative role of mechanical engineers in making major buildings that hold a place in the evolution of the modernist tradition. Since the 1970s their contribution has been central to the development of green buildings through design of their interrelated material and mechanical systems, and their increasing reliance on digital modeling and monitoring of energy use. Equally important and undervalued in historical accounts is the role of individual and/or organizational clients in supporting a shared vision of sustainability in the built environment. As the critic Sara Hart writes: "In architecture and engineering, coordination and collaboration are essential functions, but the terms are not interchangeable. Coordination is quantifiable and rational. Collaboration, on the other hand, is creative and often daring. Collaborators are allies, committed to a single vision." This session invites papers that address the collaborative process of creating green buildings, which includes their clients, architects, and engineers, and often governmental agencies and foundations supporting environmentally responsible architecture. Case studies could address public, commercial, residential, institutional, or other building types from around the world, examining energy conserving technologies related to the design of the building envelope, heating, ventilating, cooling, natural and artificial lighting, active solar for heating, photovoltaics, water use, embodied energy in materials, and digital systems for prediction and control. This session is situated within an emerging initiative in architectural history that explores energy use in buildings, or climatically responsive design. Studies in this field have

effectively illuminated the importance of environmental controls for a range of nineteenth and twentieth century buildings in the Americas, Europe, Africa, and Asia. This session aims to extend this initiative to the historical study of green buildings of the last half century.

Session Chair: Joseph Siry, Wesleyan University

Historic Buildings under Bombs: Is a Geneva Convention Possible?

In the current framework of world politics, there is an escalation of war actions that continue to bring death and destruction. Whether it is ancient architectural heritage or prestigious twentieth-century buildings, we face humanitarian first and then cultural blind destruction. The immovable heritage embodies the identity and memories of local communities, whose lives can be swept away in the annihilation of architecture. The concept has an extension in scale: from entire neighborhoods or cities declared UNESCO heritage sites to precious historic interiors of modernist architecture, they risk disappearing forever under a bombing or through targeted missiles and drones. The value of historic buildings is shared among humanity, and the loss of any of its outcomes is irreplaceable in the history of humankind. War's victims benefit, when applied, from an International Humanitarian Law regulated by the Geneva Convention although the tragedy wars currently brought in many geographical areas of the globe is unavoidable. Thus, is it possible to generate a sensitivity among citizens, architects, legislators, and politicians that leads to thinking, writing, and asking as many countries as possible to ratify a Convention Chart to protect the architectural heritage during war actions? Is it possible to establish Task Forces that can assess damages to valuable buildings in a short time for the sake of their continuation? Are there any historical cases in which there was an effort to go in this direction? Are there countries with a legislative framework already oriented in this direction? This session is interested in delving into those tools' emergency for protecting architectural heritage in the event of war which leads to the possibility of building a long-term peace policy. Indeed, the value of artistic heritage is the second supreme good, after human life, to be safeguarded and shielded as a testimony of our civilization.

Session Chair: Paola Ardizzola, Cardiff Metropolitan University

Histories, Politics, and Practices of Maintenance

As advanced by feminist and ecofeminist scholarship (Mies and Schiva, 1993; Duffy, 2007; Federici, 2012), curbing unlimited growth on a planet with finite resources necessitates reconsidering the approach toward maintaining, retrofitting, and preserving existing infrastructure, spaces, and buildings.

In contrast to the emphasis placed on design and construction phases, the subsequent stages of utilization, maintenance, and potential dismantling—often enduring the longest in a building's lifespan—have attracted scant attention from architectural historians. Despite being pivotal in shaping the character, quality, and accessibility of built spaces, these phases remain underexplored. This session seeks to redirect attention to the post-construction life of buildings, spaces, and materials, investigating the practices, actors, and

politics involved in their maintenance, whether carried out collectively, individually, or institutionally.

What is institutionally maintained and what is not is a political question, exposing state and city agendas' unequal treatment of diverse social groups. Space management and maintenance raises questions about ownership and responsibility and the appropriateness of some construction and technological solutions that are not rooted in local traditions, knowledge, and material availability.

Exploring maintenance standards and practices across historical moments and geographies, this session focuses on their evolution in response to societal, economic, and political changes. It invites contributions from the global south, indigenous practices as well as institutionalized Western standards and their critique. The session aims to foster a dialogue that spans – to give some examples – from Zurich's Graffiti Removal "brigades" and Tokyo's public toilet service to the maintenance activities sustaining vernacular mud architecture in rural communities with kinship-following social clusters or Johannesburg's bottom-up network of trash collectors.

We seek to engage in a discourse on the potential of crafting a history of architecture through the lens of evolving maintenance standards and practices, contributing to the contemporary debate on resource conservation and systemic crises.

Session Chairs: Silvia Balzan, USI Università della Svizzera Italiana; and Giulia Scotto, Mendrisio Architecture Academy

Historiography of Muslim Modernities in Architecture

The history of modernist architecture in the MENA regions is not merely recent; it is intertwined with political struggles. From the rise of modern nation-states after the first World War to anti-colonial liberation struggles during the 1950s to emancipatory movements of today, architecture has served as a site for the construction of political modernity. Regardless of the intensity of ethnocultural references, architectural productions, as Nezar AlSayyad suggests, are meant to be “modernist” not traditionalist. Despite this new aesthetics, European and North American curatorial establishments have continued to frame architecture of the region through the category of *Islamic architecture*. As Oleg Grabar observes, as late as the 1990s, themes of ornamentation, Bedouin life, and other Orientalist and romanticized motifs continued to dominate exhibitions in the Metropole. While key actors such as *L'institut du monde arabe* and the Aga Khan Trust for Culture began to provide representations of Muslim cultural modernity in the late 1970s, others like Ayatollah Khomeini confronted the West with fundamentalist images of Islam. Muslim modernity, thus, got entangled with political Islam and the revolts against it. The conflation of MENA with Islam is one thing; the examination of cultural productions of the region as political and reactionary is another.

This session invites papers that critically engage with the historiography of Muslim

modernities in architecture. Which cultural institutions, curatorial practices, publications, and magazines in the Global North have systematically presented architectural productions of the MENA region as modern? What are the examples of representing spaces associated with Muslims beyond symptomatic and socio-psychoanalytic analyses?

We welcome papers that explore questions of representation, production of knowledge, and cultural identity through any of the following frames: intersectional critique, alternative modernities, decolonial *AestheSis*, postcolonial and subaltern studies, globalization, and *l'autre mondialisation*. We welcome discussions spanning from the early 20th century to the present.

Session Chairs: Ehsan Sheikholharam, Kennesaw State University; and Arief Setiawan, Kennesaw State University

In Times of Crisis: Who Transforms the Built Environment?

Times of crisis create conditions for unexpected and urgent change to the built environment. HIV/AIDS caregivers in the 1980s transformed apartments into end-of-life care spaces, civilians in war context create refuges invisible to army forces, workers during COVID reorganized their domestic spaces into offices, etc. The urgency of these situations encourages non-architects to make changes to their built environment, often devising temporary strategies that eventually become permanent and impact the work of architects and designers. This same urgency often limits the documentation of these changes, leading to transformations that sometimes seem as if they had appeared out of thin air.

This session calls for papers exploring the role that non-designers play in the design of the built environment in emergency context and the long-lasting impact of crisis on buildings and cities, in any period or geographical location. What short-term innovations have led to the development of new typologies, of new regulations, of new uses? How have these transformations been documented and shared beyond crisis situations? How have they been understood, interpreted, or preserved?

The focus on non-architects and times of crisis also calls for a reflection on sources used to document these transformations. Where can we look for sources that allow us to understand them? What sources can we use to understand work done by marginalized groups in crisis situations? What sources can we use to understand temporary solutions developed in life-or-death situations where there are often no support or opportunities to archive the solutions being developed?

Session Chair: Olivier Vallerand, Université de Montréal

Indigenous Place-Making - Acts of Resistance and Sovereignty

While ancient Indigenous architecture has attracted significant scholarship, contemporary Indigenous architecture is only now emerging as a topic of study. Indigenous peoples are

resilient, struggling as communities while resisting colonization, assimilation, adoption, or adaptation since the contestation with settlers. Although many Indigenous peoples were moved off their traditional lands, they made place in the places they were forced into, places that respected their cultures and environments. Indigenous architecture, particularly contemporarily, is a product of communities that have over-time been subject to very restrictive issues based on colonization. More recently some communities have been able - through their own economic development or Indigenous philanthropic sources - to achieve greater control over their place-making or place sustaining decision making. We can see the possibilities that arise through looking at architecture and place making as resistance to colonization, erasure of community values and the design of ever-changing cultures while resisting outsider expectations.

This session proposes to bring together current scholarship regarding contemporary Indigenous architecture, particularly how these kinds of projects or this kind of architectural work can support resistance and community, revitalization or strengthening in Indigenous communities, architecture whose creation not only supports community but whose resulting physical places also help support their resilience. By inviting papers from practitioners and scholars that explore a breadth of topics and projects addressing architecture and placemaking as an act of resistance and sovereignty, this session provides an interesting lens to analyze contemporary Indigenous architecture. Papers might address issues of cultural values in architecture, policies (federal, state, and tribal nation), policy/guideline design, design including process/approach/methods, production, materiality and tectonics, sustainability, and historic preservation. They may discuss specific buildings or building types, community(s) or community groups. While papers from all geographic areas are welcome, any that address the southeast would be in keeping with the conference location.

Session Chair: Lynn Paxson, Iowa State University

Interaction vs. Isolation. Development of Settlements in the Mediterranean Basin

The Mediterranean region has been a historical hub of trade and cultural exchange for millennia, and settlements have often been impacted by the circulation of people and goods. This panel considers the degree of connectivity between human habitats has moulded both urban and rural spaces.

Experts in archaeology, history, and geography have studied how interaction or isolation influenced cultural, economic, social, and political development of these communities. Those located along trade routes or coastal areas are most likely to be transformed through the incorporation of external influences, fostering cosmopolitan societies. In contrast, remote regions less frequently came into contact with different cultures, and sometimes faced challenges such as the scarcity of resources. Though not entirely insulate, remote settlements have proven more likely to maintain distinct local cultures.

Analysis of the interplay of internal and external forces—climate change, resource

availability, trade networks—reveals complex factors shaping settlement growth and decline. This panel on the built environment of the Mediterranean offers insights into the development of settlements at different scales through isolation and circulation since the rise of Islam in the 7th c.

Focusing on architecture and material evidence from interdisciplinary approaches, contributions to this panel will enhance the understanding of Mediterranean settlements. Although the period we propose to consider begins with Islam's arrival in the region, essays need not be limited to consideration of Islamic aspects.

Questions to be considered include, but are not limited to:

- Diversity within religious traditions and the interaction of those traditions with other cultures;
- How local and external markers of identity shaped the built environment;
- How building materials and techniques were shaped by the local environment, commerce, and interaction across long distances;
- Theological and cultural considerations shaping structures and communities;
- How a given area's cultural and physical characteristics shaped settlements.
- How the interaction between broader social factors such as economics, demographics and local conditions has changed over time.

Session Chairs: Michael Toler, Aga Khan Documentation Center, MIT Libraries; and Beniamino Polimeni, University of Hertfordshire

Interior Spaces of Crime and Coercion

“To really appreciate architecture,” says Bernard Tschumi in *Advertisements for Architecture*, “you may even need to commit a murder.” This panel considers the interior spaces that pertain to crimes and other forbidden actions. It calls for scholarship that looks at rooms where “wrong” things are done—spaces of transgression—as well as the more frequently studied spaces of “correction.” The latter are entwined with ideas of modernity, from Piranesi’s Carceri to Foucault on Bentham’s Panopticon. The former—the scenes of the crime—are themselves subjects of study by historians of criminology like Peter Becker and Richard F. Wetzell, and the journal *Crime, Histoire & Sociétés / Crime, History & Societies*. The witness borne by Forensic Architecture has become critical to architecture culture. Crime scenes are also created by makers of fictions, designed for “solving the case” or to show the transgressor as a hero. The session defines both “crime” spaces and correctional/punitive ones broadly; they can include the non-physical spaces of theory (e.g. Branzi, Grosz, Tschumi).

The session invites papers that address the topic in relation to any geographical area, historical period or fictional context. We invite papers on locales of unlawful sexual encounters; “fake” crime scenes for training criminologists; rooms in police stations or courthouses; facilities for the “criminally insane;” the operating rooms of “curative”

surgeries performed on the lawless; counselors' rooms in "conversion" camps for gay teens; and other rooms where transgression is fought in the name of public safety or morality. We invite analyses of carceral and criminal spaces of the imagination, such as Piranesi's, or Freddy Krueger's furnace room. Papers that explore new methodological approaches are particularly encouraged.

This session is organized by the SAH Historic Interiors Affiliate Group.

Session Chair: David Samson, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Landscape Labor

How have labor and knowledge been organized, instrumented, or remade in the production of designed landscapes? Often narrated through scalar poles of the garden and the territory, histories of landscape(s) have rarely emphasized the institutions and practices that reproduce the human subjects who design and build parks, gardens, shorelines, and other natural-cultural infrastructures. This panel invites papers examining the creation, circulation, and enactment of knowledge and practice in creating landscapes from the early modern period through the twentieth century.

How can we expand historical narratives of landscapes beyond physical context to discuss the workplaces of landscape production and interrogate the conditions under which this labor was enacted. Historians of landscape architecture have elucidated the technological procedures used in various historical and geographical contexts to manipulate topography, hydrography, and biomes. Likewise, scholars have drawn attention to technics' roles in the design disciplines' theoretical formations and material procedures. This panel builds on these methodological turns by questioning how labor and knowledge interact in making landscapes. What are the material and social histories of landscape production? The sessions invite proposals from a variety of perspectives – including but not limited to landscape and architectural history, history of science, pedagogy studies, media studies, and organizational studies – that explore relationships between technology, labor, and landscape. We seek to understand how landscape production has historically played a role in the division and devaluation of labour through its bureaucratic and institutional formations.

This session welcomes papers grounded in sites, materials, and practices that engage with knowledge formation in landscape architecture. Topics might include networks of intellectual or professional exchange between the metropole and periphery, the roles of trade unions in shaping the professional practice, indigenous and tacit knowledge and expertise, histories of landscape pedagogy, the mangled expertise shared by landscape architects, scientists and engineers, and dynamics between extractive or industrial technologies and landscape design.

Session Chairs: Kanwal Aftab, University of Toronto; and Maxwell Smith-Holmes, Princeton University

Masculinities, Gardens, Landscapes: Negotiating Gender and Nature

From the idea of ‘heroes’ of modern architecture to the starchitect, architecture in the long 20th century was profoundly shaped by its relationship to cultures of masculinity. Yet, there is a scarcity of research and explicit debate that questions what role cultures of masculinities have played in the creation and design of gardens and landscapes. The professional identities, roles, and agencies of garden and landscape designers expanded into new domains in the 20th century and were constantly renegotiated, such as the large-scale planning tasks during the decades after the Second World War in various cultural contexts which allowed the coding of designed landscapes with masculine stereotypes. Meanwhile, gardens and landscapes became crucial topoi for architects and urban planners.

While it is well-known that western cultures carry an accumulated cultural imaginary that ties gardens to ideas about privacy, domesticity and femininity, these connections may turn out much more complicated when we begin to inspect the relationship between gardens, landscapes and masculinities more closely and in various cultural contexts.

This session invites for a discussion of questions such as (but not limited to):

- Who are the agents in shaping, performing, and representing cultures of masculinities in gardens, landscapes and their design?
- How do cultures of masculinities relate to other markers of difference and power, such as class, bodily abilities, race and more in specific landscapes and gardens.
- How do notions of the professional garden designer or landscape architect that emerged in the 20th century relate to ideas about scale, entrepreneurship, innovation, and masculinities?
- How might a more nuanced history of masculinities inform the politics of gender, bodies and power in histories of gardens and landscapes today?
- How can a greater understanding of masculinities help us move beyond binary ideas of gender, as well as binaries such as center/periphery, nature/culture, domestic/public, professional/amateur?

Session Chairs: Luca Csepely-Knorr, University of Liverpool; and Svava Riesto, University of Copenhagen

Monumental Architecture Since the End of the Cold War

Monumental architecture—large, permanent, and intended to impress—has long been synonymous with power, wealth, and status. By virtue of scale, monumental projects like the skyscraper or the stadium can define their surroundings regardless of any specific

formal qualities. Therefore, they often have an impact on the built landscape outside to the programs that drive their creation. They occupy the public eye.

The conditions under which monumental projects emerge have changed considerably since the end of the Cold War. Geopolitical alliances that defined much of the post-WW II era are faltering. Trust in institutions that were in the main clients for monumental architecture (the state, organized religion, well-heeled or blue-chip corporations) is in decline. The geography of monumentality has shifted since the Cold War too – with the skyscraper, early of New York and Chicago, moving east and leaving at present only two of the 25 tallest buildings in the world in the United States. The question for this panel is: For what purpose and where does monumental architecture rise in the recent past?

A survey of SAH conference programs since 2015 shows the subject of monumentality has recently flown under the radar. This panel seeks papers that ask: for which agendas are the costs, complexity, and risk of monumental design and construction leveraged? Which state and non-state actors are the expected clients? Who are the emerging uncommon and unexpected ones? What social practices do we expect to see enabled or codified in the form of monumental architecture in our present moment? How has the geographic distribution of monumentality changed in the past three decades? This panel is especially interested in building typologies, geographies, programs, and contexts often overlooked or understudied in architectural historical scholarship at-large, including projects often described as (merely) engineering or infrastructure.

Session Chair: Benjamin Flowers, The Ohio State University

Movement and Migration in Early Modern Mediterranean Architecture

How did the movement of people, ideas, and techniques produce new architectural syntheses in the early modern Mediterranean? How did these syntheses reflect evolving identities and imaginaries of the past?

The Ottoman conquest of Constantinople in 1453 and the Castilian conquest of Nasrid Granada in 1492 were watershed events, ushering in great religious, cultural, and political upheavals that transformed the Mediterranean – creating new cultural geographies, architectures, and settlement patterns. Aftershocks were long-lasting and compounded as waves of refugees, along with expulsions, forced conversions, transfers, and displacements, established far-flung diaspora communities with complex and layered identities. Despite Ottoman-Hapsburg rivalry and warfare, cultural exchange between the empires and with Italian states continued throughout the long 16th century and beyond, as political interests and perceptions of the religious “other” evolved. Imperial styles were increasingly codified but remained fluid, as architects, engineers, and artisans moved across these large territorial expanses.

What is the architecture of such movements, contacts, and exchanges? We seek papers that explore connections within and across the Mediterranean under the aegis of empire and in

its margins, from the mid-15th century through the early 18th century. Themes and sites may include contacts between pan-Mediterranean powers like the Ottomans and the Hapsburgs, and smaller polities like Saadian Morocco and Venice; the architecture of expulsions, population transfers, and diasporas; the movement of architectural practitioners, ideas, and techniques; the recuperation and reinvention of antique heritage in and across Islamic and Christian realms. We are especially interested in north-south and east-west exchanges involving Africa, southern Europe, the Balkans, Anatolia and the Levant.

Session Chairs: Ann C. Huppert, University of Washington; and Michele Lamprakos, University of Maryland

Open Session

Open Sessions are available for those whose research does not match any of the themed sessions. Papers submitted to the Open Sessions are assessed in terms of perceived merit, and not in regard to geography, era, theme, etc.

Session Chairs: TBD

Paper Trails: Architectural Archives in Migration

The session will explore how the transnational migration and resettlement of architectural archives influences the production of history.

Far from being immutable or static, collections of original drawings, building logs, correspondence, books, manuscripts, etc. have often been subject to geographical diaspora and displacement. With an ever-increasing pace since the 20th century, architectural archives have been uprooted, broken up and shifted across political and cultural borders, in the aftermath of traumatic events (armed conflict, upheavals, natural disasters, colonial and post-colonial exile) or following the trails of global trade and collectorship.

As a result, displaced archives have turned into 'boundary objects', inhabiting several intersecting places and identities at once. And contemporary scholars – even when their research interests are limited to the biography of an architect, or the design of a building – are often bound to deal with documentary sources dispersed along uneven transnational coordinates.

Rather than focusing on the myriad possible causes behind the mobility of architectural archives, the session invites investigations on the effects of dislocation on the scholarship and teaching of history, including:

- How the geographical dismemberment of a body of records (*corpus*) documenting the work of an architect / scholar can enable, undermine, or overplay specific historical narratives and interpretations.
- How displaced collections, by virtue of decontextualization – by being seen from new perspectives – can alter conventional historiographical tropes in unexpected ways.
- The role of international research archives as heterotopic clusters fostering unforeseen juxtapositions, and driving changes in the subjects, trends, and methodologies of historical inquiry.
- Archives and architectural narratives, from and towards the Global South: appropriation, post-colonial retention / restitution, reclaiming of histories, and reversed migrations in contemporary research (acquisition and mobility of records, from the North to the South).

Session Chairs: Kai Wang, Tongji University; and Jacopo Benedetti, Tongji University

Post-Medieval: Afterlives, Preservation and Loss of the Medieval

This session interrogates the stakes, modes, and attitudes surrounding the afterlives, preservation, and loss of the medieval built environment after the end of the Middle Ages. Architectural history inherently gravitates towards comprehending the pre-existing, often downplaying responses to this condition. While the medieval built environment is the subject of extensive scholarship, the discipline tends to prioritize its medieval histories over post-medieval ones, driven by a pervasive quest for the “real” Middle Ages. Yet structures erected in the medieval period are integral components of early modern, modern, and contemporary environments and histories. Occurrences such as the Notre-Dame fire in 2019, discussions on subsequent interventions, and the ongoing construction site prompt a thorough examination of the implications arising from the absence, reworking, and care of medieval architecture within post-medieval societies. The session embraces this challenge.

Recent endeavors have drawn attention to an “architectural history of medievalism” and architectural history’s responsibilities in advancing knowledge on responses to the Middle Ages. This session aims to further the conversation and shine a spotlight on the diachronic nature of medieval architecture. Highlighting an aspect that has often been undervalued, it seeks to tackle prevailing biases: the emphasis on medieval architecture in its pre-modern state and the negative evaluation of post-medieval interventions impacting the “original”.

By rethinking the medieval built environment as a lens of refraction through which to delve into post-medieval histories, the session welcomes explorations into responses to this environment, while shifting focus away from the Middle Ages. Submissions may encompass any geography and historical period from the early modern to the contemporary. Papers that examine dynamic modes of interaction like annihilation, restoration, preservation, and reworking — including practices of medieval survival (continuing post-medieval enterprises that follow patterns ascribable to the medieval era) — in relation to themes such as injustice, sustainability, and crisis are particularly encouraged.

Session Chair: Tommaso Zerbi , Bibliotheca Hertziana – Max Planck Institute for Art History

Reconstruction and the New “South”

In his 1935 *Black Reconstruction in America*, W. E. B. Du Bois noted that “the unending tragedy of Reconstruction is the utter inability of the American mind to grasp its real significance, its national and worldwide implications.” Describing both a physical process and a political metaphor, the term Reconstruction denotes a period in United States history roughly spanning the decade after the Civil War. Marked by intense ideological discourse and struggle over the nature of the citizen, the shape of institutions, and the contours of everyday life, the unfinished revolution of Reconstruction was followed by what the Atlanta newspaperman Henry Grady described as the emergence of a “New South” that embraced industrialization and economic growth but what Du Bois described as a retreat back into the shadows of slavery in the form of Jim Crow.

Recent and ongoing historical work has made efforts to see in Reconstruction and the decades that followed not isolated US experiences but rather phenomena that enlist a much wider cast of actors and geographies. Following scholarship that looks at the emergence of the New South as a global phenomenon, this panel calls for papers that participate in these efforts by connecting the architecture and built environment of the post-Civil War US South to global currents. We invite contributions that address topics such as the architectural, landscape, and infrastructural imaginaries that accompanied the political metaphor of Reconstruction, the connections between Reconstruction and other revolutionary struggles in the early-twentieth century, the effects of free labor and its ambitions on the built environment in the US South and the Caribbean, and the post-slavery transformations of the plantation system and its extractive and transportation infrastructures across the Americas.

Session Chairs: John Dean Davis, The Ohio State University; and Bryan E. Norwood, The University of Texas at Austin

Revising Histories of Post-Conflict/Disaster Reconstruction

Reconstruction, following wars, military conflicts, and disasters such as earthquakes, floods, and wildfires, has emerged as a central intellectual and design problem of our times. In the face of recent violent events in Palestine, Ukraine, Syria, Yemen, and Sudan, not to mention accelerating ecological catastrophes, reconstruction projects are emerging across the world with an aim to rebuild houses, infrastructure, and productive landscapes but also communities and entire “nations”. In the growing scholarship that maps the genealogies of reconstruction knowledge and practices, two narratives stand out. The first interrogates the role of international organizations and donor nations that use reconstruction projects as vehicles to advance Western socio-political institutions, production patterns, and heritage values into local societies, further propelling conflicts, from within and without. The second investigates reconstruction projects in processes of decolonization and humanitarian aid as

a field of global expertise manifested in the design of camps, shelters, and self-help housing.

This session proposes to revise the histories of post-conflict/disaster reconstruction by foregrounding marginalized experiences and perspectives in diverse temporal and geographical contexts. It invites papers that explore reconstructions from the perspective of labor in ways that condition the power of experts and highlight the agency of builders and inhabitants while considering racial and gender hierarchies in the extraction of knowledge and resources. We are interested in studies highlighting “other-than-human” agencies in reconstruction projects that focus on the role of ruins and debris, construction materials, food systems, water, and energy infrastructures, as well as undiscussed environments, such as rural areas, forests, maritime ecoregions, and desert landscapes. Most welcomed are ecofeminist and southern epistemologies that interrogate reconstruction projects as a question of social and environmental justice, aspiring to radically revise histories—and current modes of reconstruction—by thinking of expertise as a practice of repair, care, and healing from a planetary perspective.

Session Chairs: Petros Phokaides, University of Thessaly; and Fatina Abreek-Zubiedat, Tel Aviv University

Roots to Skylines: Hybrid Labor and Planetary Building

Amid interconnected ecological and sociopolitical tipping points, the architectural and spatial sciences progressively embrace a shift toward hybridity. Marked by experimental alliances with atmospheric phenomena, biological entities, or geological processes, hybrid practices seek to stabilize planetary environments by addressing the disequilibrium of Earth’s metabolic systems. Departing from modernist extraction paradigms, adaptive design moves beyond buildings integrated into landscapes to structures that actively process, respond to, and engineer planetary systems. From albedo modification to geoengineering for carbon sequestration to landscapes that remediate contaminated soil, the spectrum of possibilities is vast, encompassing a discourse historically ranging from pre-architectural dwelling to architecture’s postcolonial legacies.

We invite papers that explore the dialogue between human-made structures and planetary forces. Embracing Indigenous epistemologies, situated knowledges, or activism, contributors are encouraged to present emblematic case studies, institutions, or buildings illuminating historical moments where architecture and landscape converged toward a truly “planetary” (Gabrys) understanding. Whether examining the resilience of Mayan agroecological landscape design or futuristic infra-architectural concepts for data centers in extreme climates, submissions should reflect a nuanced grasp of the evolving relationship between the built environment and the planetary.

Departing from the conventional view of the material world as a mere resource for extraction, this panel seeks to challenge the modernist dictum that shackles the Earth in service to humanity, capital, and construction. Contributors are encouraged to

reconceptualize ecopolitical relationships towards hybrid labor (Battistoni) and collaborative engagement with the more-than-human. Papers exploring human and more-than-humans' co-constitutive labor in the built environment and historical narratives of such collaborations are particularly welcomed. Submissions are anticipated to contribute to a rich tapestry of perspectives that deepen our understanding of the evolving dynamics between the built environment and the planetary, fostering a holistic discourse within the spatial disciplines—encompassing landscape, architecture, planning, and beyond.

Session Co-Chairs: Clemens Finkelstein, Princeton University; and Sonia Sobrino Ralston, Northeastern University

Scarcity and Adaptation

Merriam-Webster defines the German noun *Ersatz* as an “artificial and inferior substitute or imitation.” In times of crisis, housing, goods, foodstuffs, and workers are typically subject to such substitutions, with temporary scarcity regularly devolving into something more permanent. The Covid-19 pandemic laid bare the outsize material impacts of scarcity on vulnerable populations, thus revealing a faltering template of intervention and governmentalization. These conditions have continued amidst rising inflation and numerous austerity measures imposed by governments and organizations alike. Gentrification and housing precarity have intensified in both rural America and in cities like Atlanta, disproportionately affecting systematically disadvantaged groups and people of color.

We are thus interested in works investigating not only *what*, but also *who* is made subject to scarcity, and how the employment of Ersatz structures, materials, and design choices have mitigated or exacerbated material want, both historically and today. Improvised and ad-hoc devices forged and adapted under conditions of scarcity have sometimes brought non-expert actors into the realm of design, broadening what had traditionally been a restricted and elite field of expertise. Worldwide, self-help housing often addresses dwelling needs through both informal means and participatory design practices. To what degree do Ersatz elements, their preparation, and distribution influence material want and the grassroots capacity to adapt and transform the built environment?

What happens when even these tenuous Ersatz supports are stripped away, while conditions of scarcity endure? How have spatialized arguments around shelter, sustenance, and caregiving — long a feminist concern and subject of scholarship — been revisited and rebranded during times of scarcity? We welcome papers dealing with any temporal period and geographic location, though are particularly interested in how Ersatz design/architecture has manifested and addressed issues of scarcity in the American South and Atlanta specifically.

Session Chairs: Silvina Lopez Barrera, Mississippi State University; and Erin Eckhold Sassin, Middlebury College

Secular Modernity as Racial Colonial Construct

What role has architecture played in the coloniality of secular modernity? What is the historical relationship between race, religion, empire, and the built environment? A growing body of architectural scholarship has been unearthing the colonial legacies that lie at the heart of global modernity. On the one hand, historians are calling attention to the racial ideologies and racist practices associated with the architectural manifestations of modernity. On the other, they have begun to engage with a secular critique that shows modern spatial technologies as pious technologies. This critique examines architecture as a medium for spiritual and secular yearnings beyond traditionally bound sacred spaces, such as churches, temples, or mosques. It also illuminates the religious and the secular as mutually constructed categories; a binary meant to stage non-Christian spiritualities and ethnicities as non-modern and modernity itself as the secular West. Less well understood, however, is the relationship between race and religion in the coloniality of modernity; how, since the 1500s, the religious vector has worked alongside the racial to sustain the colonial matrix of modernity's power.

This session seeks papers that consider the relationship between the religious, the racial, and the architectural as critical categories of analysis across the world from the 1500s to contemporary times. The eclipse of spirituality in the name of modernity was a product of imperial and epistemological conflicts that secularized race and remains active today. The rise of religious fundamentalism comes together with continued attempts to dismantle spiritual forms, ancestral beings, and cosmologies under the pretense of technoscientific, economic, and secular progress. The panel looks to illuminate the dialogics between the secular, the racial, and the spiritual in the spaces, techniques, aesthetics, and institutions of architecture—helping the field overcome the divide between the racial and the religious that is itself a colonial construct.

Session Chairs: María González Pendás, Cornell University; and Patricio del Real, Harvard University

Sounding Spaces: Acoustic Legacies Across Architectural Eras

This interdisciplinary session explores the relationship between sound and space throughout architectural history. From ancient structures to the modern era, the quality of sound and silence within architectural spaces has influenced public and private events, inspiring musicians and affecting the rituals conducted within these spaces. While architectural acoustics is a relatively new field in science explaining sound propagation within enclosed volumes, the construction of our built environment has intertwined with its associated sound and soundscapes throughout history.

This session delves into the intentional and unintentional acoustical phenomena within architectural spaces. It recognizes that, even before the formalization of acoustic science, our ancestors engaged with and manipulated sound in various ways. The evolution of musical instruments is a testament to historical experimentation with the acoustical properties of diverse materials and geometries.

We invite architectural historians, architects, archaeologists, and any researcher whose work centers around sound and acoustics in architectural history to contribute to this session. Discussions may encompass an empirical approach to studying the soundscape of an architectural space or an anthropological study to unveil how space's acoustics have influenced a form of ritual or music traditions. Moreover, how do these sonic environments contribute to transcendental experiences and encountering the sublime in sacred spaces? This session encourages research at the intersection of humanities and science with inquiries about the influence of space acoustics on the evolution of cultures.

Session Chairs: Nima Farzaneh, Stanford University; and Sergio Alarcón Robledo, Harvard University

Strategies of Transfer and Translation in Housing

As public housing development becomes politically acceptable again in the United States in the 2020s, "Vienna" and "Singapore" are ciphers for a new form of "social housing." Today's housing advocates point emphatically to successes elsewhere to prod new forms of development and design at home, not unlike Catherine Bauer, who travelled interwar Europe in search of well-designed, non-market housing models to pitch to New Deal policymakers.

Now, as then, however, the thorny issue of transferability looms large. As Daniel Rodgers noted in *Atlantic Crossings* on the Progressive Age, or Nancy Kwak discussed in *A World of Homeowners* in relation to the Cold War, transferring housing models from one place to another is rarely a smooth process. Unique political, cultural, and economic conditions necessitate transformation of models, sometimes implemented against local aspirations or needs, yielding housing that is rejected by residents or hybrids unrecognizably related to their progenitors in terms of form or use.

This panel seeks contributions about historical or current examples of transnational housing exchange that identify and discuss specific strategies of transfer and translation. How did protagonists—experts such as architects, but also organizers and users—argue for the adoption of a foreign model? What criteria were utilized to pinpoint the potential for transferability from one context to another? How were land-use policies, financial formulas, or architectural typologies assimilated in new contexts, and through what mechanisms? And how did these transfers and translations play out in the short and long term? We are interested in all periods and geographies.

We also seek through this panel to reflect on the strategies and methods of transnational research on housing in architectural and urban history. When is typological, institutional, or other comparison legitimate and on the basis of what criteria? And how does this research bolster present-day efforts?

Session Chairs: Christina E. Crawford, Emory University; and Susanne Schindler, ETH Zürich

The Architecture of the Negro Travelers' Green Book

The Negro Travelers' Green Book, a guidebook for African American travelers, was published by New York City mailman Victor Hugo Green in response to pervasive and widespread racial discrimination during the pre-Civil Rights Act era. Green's guide featured hotels, restaurants, service stations and other places where African Americans could count on being served. The sites themselves embody the overlooked history of mid-twentieth century African Americans: the women who ran tourist homes because their husbands could not get jobs that paid well enough to support their families, the men who saw opportunity and opened motels based on the amount of traffic passing through their towns, and the businessman who financed those who offered beauty, entertainment, and style to middle class African Americans. These unsung people were the backbone of the African-American tourist industry.

This panel invites proposals that examine the physical fabric specifically—architecture, landscape, siting—of these sites in ways that reconstruct and enhance our understanding of this landscape of African American travel. We especially seek papers that show how the built environment was shaped to balance dualities, such as needing to be both visible and hidden, open and closed, outgoing and inward facing. Proposals may consider specific *Green Book* sites from any region and/or present a case study using a neighborhood, city, regional, state or any other lens that sheds light on how architecture was used by everyday African Americans to benefit their communities.

Session Chairs: Catherine Zipf, Bristol Historical & Preservation Society; Anne Bruder, Independent Architectural Historian; and Susan Hellman, Historic Preservation Planner, City of Alexandria VA

The Architecture of US Empire

This session focuses on the architecture of US imperialism in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries, with special attention to sites outside the contiguous United States and the experiences of those on the receiving end of its imperial practices. In many ways, the country's present-day status as a global superpower is firmly rooted in a much longer history of exploitative practices, both formal and "informal," that trace back to the violent colonization of land belonging to Native Americans and subsequent hemispheric hegemony embedded in the Monroe Doctrine. These practices were at their height at the turn of the twentieth century, following the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom in 1893 and the Spanish–American War of 1898, after which the US claimed the Philippines, Puerto Rico, and Guam, occupied Cuba, and annexed Hawai'i and American Samoa. Using this series of events as our baseline, this session aims to consider the infrastructures built and landscapes engineered to funnel resources back to US shores and projections of US might abroad, alongside efforts to resist them.

This session welcomes papers that consider, for example, the architectural history of US

state- and US capital-led development in overseas territories, the construction of industrial enclaves, the history of so-called civilizing and modernizing missions, and the footprint of the US military. Narratives might center on urban plans, corporate headquarters, territorial infrastructures, workers' housing, hotels, industrial works, diplomatic buildings, and international development programs. How has architecture been an agent of the United States' efforts to gain influence globally through settler colonialism, territorial government, military intervention, the rule of experts, and the globalization of US markets? How did these efforts register at the urban, architectural, and domestic scale? And how do we, as historians, avoid the charge of "nationalist transnationalism" when rewriting histories of US imperial architecture?

Session Chair: Elliott Sturtevant, Princeton University

The Multisensory, the Emotive and the Built Environment

While an ocular bias has been dominant in architectural historical discourse for centuries, the sensory turn has catalyzed discussions around how aesthetic experience is shaped by the emotive and the embodied. This is particularly true in the case of ceremonies, consecration and care of relics, pilgrimage, and performance. Through spatially embedded practices, multisensory engagement gave expression to separation and longing, as well as providing a means for people to "recover their spiritual 'wholeness' and find their bearings amid the disorienting events of everyday life" (Perez-Gomez 2008, 48). This panel aims to explore what it means for humans to process complex, and often antagonistic, emotions such as grief, restraint, longing, anxiety, love, or desire, collectively in built and natural environments. How does multisensory engagement with ritual, play, and performance enhance collective emotional engagement and bolster spiritual resiliency, particularly in times of crisis? What are the primary forces that shape architectures of longing, anxiety, grief, and spiritual fulfillment? How do the multisensory qualities of ritual practice enhance experiences of the transcendent or sacred in varied contexts such as the liturgical or funerary? What are the relationships between space and ceremony, and how might these redefine how we think about what constitutes sacred architecture today? We invite papers from the ancient to the contemporary from any region that explore evocations of complex human emotions and collective anxiety, such as environmental grief, in architectural space or the natural world. This may include explorations of traditional religious architecture such as shrines, temples, mosques, churches, or synagogues as well as contemporary spaces, installations, or practices.

Alberto Perez-Gomez, 2008. *Built upon Love: Architectural Longing after Ethics and Aesthetics*. MIT Press.

Session Chairs: Anita Bakshi, Rutgers University; and Heba Mostafa, University of Toronto

The Publicity Spectrum: The Production of Fame and Work in Architecture

In the history of modern architectural practice, finding work and its attendant issues—marketing, publicity, the production of reputation—have been critical but overlooked aspects of the production process. Under the ideology of Anglo-American professionalism, “profit” and “ambition” were almost dirty words and advertising was taboo. Successful architects in the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries tended to be from elite social and academic backgrounds, part of what Garry Stevens once called “The Favored Circle:” a world of exclusive, mostly male patronage networks that controlled the distribution of opportunity. Over time, however, enterprising practitioners in liberalized economies garnered attention and pursued success in new ways, using communication technologies and an understanding of the mechanics of fame and exposure.

This session invites papers that explore what we are provisionally calling the “publicity spectrum” in all of its global diversity, from the everyday, routine work of a large firm’s marketing and sales staff to the creative publicity agents and fame-brokers behind the emergence of architectural celebrity and signature style. One might approach publicity and economies of distinction with sociological methods of historical analysis, following Stevens or Pierre Bourdieu. Alternatively, media and gender histories of architectural publicity, marketing, advertising, or branding are also welcome, including analyses of how architects have used different kinds of media to craft their image, find clients, and transcend geographical, social, disciplinary, or political boundaries. We are especially interested in pulling back the curtain on architecture’s cult of design genius in order to identify those ancillary actors or unforeseen forces involved in the production of opportunity, as well as those critical inflection points when the history of architectural publicity fundamentally changed.

Session Co-Chairs: Kevin P. Block, Thomas Jefferson University; and Eva Hagberg, Independent Scholar

Urban Surfaces: Architectural Perspectives on Public Walls

Urban walls separate, divide, and protect; but they are also sites of display and communication, and powerful tools of social and political expression. This panel focuses on the social functions of urban walls and surfaces, and their potential to support creative, just, and inclusive urban life.

The panel invites contributions from researchers, artists, architects, to examine contemporary and historical roles and uses of various architectural surfaces, and their contribution to the formation of urban cultures, materialities, and atmospheres.

Recent years have seen repeated calls to emancipation from the tropes of flatness,

superficiality and style that are associated with the study of surfaces within and beyond architectural discourse (Bruno 2014, Ingold 2017, Chatterjee 2017, Carlin 2018, de la Fuente 2019, Halland 2023) – yet *urban* surfaces are only starting to become a focused subject of investigation. This session builds on this multidisciplinary uptake in surface-related scholarship, to develop architectural perspectives for the urban surfaces research agenda (Urban Surfaces Research Network, Andron 2023).

Possible themes for presentations include:

- The social lives of building surfaces
- Research methods for contemporary and historical surfaces
- Heritage and conservation of urban surfaces
- Surfaces as communicative devices: semiotics, atmospheres, signage
- Facadism, urban branding, and veiling of building surfaces
- Inscribing and cleaning surfaces: graffiti, murals, buffing
- Surface maintenance: protecting, cleaning, coating
- Greenwashing, whitewashing, and critical approaches to surface design technologies

How do architectural surfaces contribute to the formation of urban character? What can we learn about urban cultures through the study of surfaces? And how can architectural history contribute to these projects?

Session Chair: Sabina Andron, University of Melbourne

Why Infrastructure?

Infrastructure is still in fashion - perhaps even more now so because covid 19 and climate emergencies have made us conscious of it breaking down, and hence becoming visible. Anywhere in the humanities and social sciences, studies of transport systems, highways, electronic communications networks, and waste disposal abound. In 2013 the anthropologist Brian Larkin (2013) called for a 'poetics and politics' of infrastructure, for its consideration as culture as well as engineering. That way of thinking about infrastructure can be found in architectural history and theory, in (for example) the work of Keller Easterling (2014) or Reinhold Martin (2018), or a collection by Hélène Frichot and others that encouraged its readers to cultivate 'infrastructural love' (2023). The so-called 'infrastructural turn' is certainly mainstream in architectural history and theory.

It is therefore a good moment to take account of infrastructure. But rather than adding to the stock of infrastructural examples, we want to think about the 'how' and 'why' of the engagement of architectural history and theory with infrastructure, without limits on time period or geographical area. We want to explore infrastructure's appeal for individual researchers, what motivates the burgeoning disciplinary interest in it, and what informs the

choice of infrastructural objects for study.

We are particularly interested in images. Visual representations of infrastructure - whether perspectives, plans, and section drawings, or images in film, photography and art – have been crucial to the engagement of architectural history and theory with infrastructure. We therefore welcome papers on questions of critical visual representation of any kind. We are also particularly interested in neglected or overlooked infrastructures, and how architectural history and theory might both reveal and explore them and their futures. Finally, we welcome papers that address disciplinary implications: what does the study of infrastructure through textual and visual analysis mean for the future of architectural history and theory?

Session Chairs: Richard J. Williams, University of Edinburgh; and Igea Troiani, London South Bank University