



The journal *studies in History and Theory of Architecture*, published by the Department of Architectural History & Theory and Heritage Conservation at «Ion Mincu» University of Architecture and Urbanism in Bucharest, Romania, invites submissions for the 2021 issue.

Ideas at Home

HOUSING CONCEPTS IN ARCHITECTURE

In recent years, housing research has spurred a growing interest from architectural historians, theorists and practitioners alike. However, housing studies are still developed mostly outside the field of architecture. The discourse on housing is nowadays taken over mainly by developers, social activists, policy makers and administrators, who reason mostly under the pressure of immediate practicality. Housing is often seen as real estate, and short-term thinking overwhelms reflection that could lead to better alternatives for the environment of habitation.

About thirty years ago, Jim Kemeny noticed the loss of conceptual content in housing studies, in spite of the many disciplinary fields involved. He deplored the "epistemic drift," the tendency towards thinking at "lowest common interdisciplinary denominators." He argued that housing research should go back into the depth of each discipline's insights and develop specific concepts and ideas, which in the long run would also enrich interdisciplinary thinking. Following Kemeny's argument, disciplinary progress has been made in social sciences, but not so much in architecture. This issue of sITA calls for such in-depth explorations of specific notions in the field of housing architecture.

Architecture conceptualizes the inhabited space in a way that cannot be replaced by any other disciplinary perspective. It has its own knowledge-building processes and can provide valuable answers to most of the fundamental questions of housing. With their problem-centered insights and concrete explanatory power, architectural concepts are valuable critical and analytical tools for the knowledge on housing. Housing needs architecture. And the other way around, housing is crucial to architecture. Modern architecture was invented through housing; our built environments are mostly made of housing.

We call for articles addressing housing-related concepts, ideas, and terms, relevant for housing architecture and for its theoretical reflection.

We are looking forward to various approaches able to catalyze architectural housing theory such as:

- historical research, following how housing-related notions emerged, moved and evolved in relation to changing contexts,
- theoretical approaches that underscore the social critical value of an architectural or urban concept of housing,
- terminological perspectives that explore specific housing terms and their translation between languages, cultural idioms and disciplinary codes,
- project argumentations, developing an inspiring theory for contemporary housing design,
- imaginary approaches that envision a well-defined idea for housing in the future.

Above all, we welcome papers that demonstrate that ideas about housing are at home in the field of architecture.

A preliminary abstract of 200 – 250 words should be submitted by **February 22, 2021**. Selected contributors will be notified by e-mail on **March 15**. The final article should be submitted for review by **May 31**. Contributions will undergo a double-blind peer review procedure.

Reviews of current events (conferences, recent publications, exhibitions) which are of interest for the fields of architectural history and theory are also welcome. Reviews should be submitted by **June 28, 2021**.

All correspondence will be addressed to sita@uauim.ro, to the attention of Dana Vais (guest editor) and Radu Ponta (managing editor of the current issue).

Guidelines for authors

Manuscripts are to be submitted in US English and should range between 5,000-8,000 words, including references, tables, and bibliography. Reviews should range between 1,000-2,000 words. The title page should include the contributor's name, affiliation and e-mail address, 5-7 keywords, as well as an abstract of 200-250 words. An extended summary ranging between 700 and 1,000 words (to be published in Romanian) must also be submitted. Romanian authors are kindly asked to send in the extended summary in Romanian; our staff will undertake the translation for foreign authors. Reviews should not be accompanied by abstract, summary, or keywords. Contributors are asked to send a Microsoft Word compatible document, with minimal formatting.

For notes (as footnotes) and reference list, please use The Chicago Manual of Style, "Notes and bibliography" style (for details and examples, see https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide/citation-guide-1.html).

A reference list will be included at the end of the paper. Illustrations (.tiff or .jpg format, min. 300 dpi at printed size) must be provided separately, and their location must be indicated clearly throughout the paper. A full list of figure captions is to be provided at the end of the article (including figure number, description, and source). Authors are responsible for securing the rights to reproduce and publish all graphic material.

For full details, see please *Instructions for authors* at sita.uauim.ro.