

Editorial Introduction

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The Eleventh Annual Symposium of Architectural Research (ATUT 2019) took place in Tampere on 3 and 4 October 2019 as part of the annual symposium series of the Finnish schools of architecture. This year the symposium was a joint event with the fiftieth anniversary, on 4 and 5 October, of its organiser the Tampere School of Architecture. The school is now part of the new Tampere University, established in January 2019 in a merge of the two former universities the University of Tampere and the Tampere University of Technology. To reflect this new situation, ATUT 2019 had venues on both schools' local campuses.

The theme of the symposium had two prerequisites: it had to be new in the symposium series and it had to acknowledge the diversity of architectural research. *Architecture and City as a Home* as a broad metaphor clearly met both. We accepted 68 submitted abstracts and registered 51 presentations, around half of which arriving from abroad. No papers were expected at this stage, but willing participants could submit manuscripts to this journal soon after the symposium. The final result is here: one keynote paper and nine peer-reviewed papers. Together they well demonstrate the interpretational possibilities of the symposium theme.

The first paper is a keynote, *Architecture, city and home: a personal narrative of a globetrotter* by Karine Dupre, and offers an illuminating comparison of growing and living in different urban geographies and cultures. Furthermore it is a clever introduction to the mutual relation between the home and the city, as to different ways of analysing this relation. Otherwise, the author describes herself as a 'privileged nomad' with safe shelter in various places of the world.

After the keynote, the first of the peer-reviewed papers also can be related to the theme of nomadism, even if the author never mentions the word. Hannah M. Strothmann's *Unsettled – Reconsidering the notion of 'homelessness' through the lens of urban movement* is an intellectual take on the symposium theme: for the homeless living on the move, often by no choice of their own, the city itself has literally become their home. The paper is a refreshing example of societally critical writing on urban planning and housing. Indirectly, Strothmann also exposes the self-evident assumption that 'homes' equal particular spaces and buildings in a city. In fact this assumption tacitly underlies the other papers collected here, which otherwise address the topics of home and housing in many different ways.

From an historical point of view, one of the most important developments of the twentieth century was the concept of the 'neighbourhood unit'. In Europe alone, neighbourhoods established after the Second World War now form much of the existing suburban environment. In Finland urbanisation occurred relatively late,

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making this change particularly visible. From the beginning, Finnish neighbourhoods adopted urban planning principles from the Anglo-American concept of the neighbourhood unit in combination with architectural influence from the early-twentieth-century modern apartment house. Urban growth now tends to densify these areas. Beginning in the 1990s Finland's Ministry of the Environment launched several neighbourhood development programmes. Both cities and research institutions participate in these.¹

The next two papers demonstrate how fundamental a question the large-scale construction of new housing was during the twentieth century. *Quarticciolo – A suburb as 'dissonant heritage'*, by Minna Kulojärvi, analyses urban heritage of a fascist-era satellite district of Rome through three narratives. The district is an example of the urban environment programmatically produced by the fascist regime in the 1940s. Hence, the first and second narratives concern political urban history. The third narrative analyses the district as an example of rationalist architecture. The focus of the paper is on not only changes in urban structure and architecture but also 'dissonant heritage', its meanings and interpretations.

When a patio becomes a city: (In)volution of Carrières Centrales, Casablanca (1953–2018), by Luis Palacios and Beatriz Alonso, examines another kind of modernist urban-housing project. The original plan was based on a reinterpretation of the traditional Moroccan house. What followed later was about not only changing meanings but also the tangible changes of buildings and urban fabric. Based on recent empirical material, the paper examines this profound metamorphosis. The authors do not try to witness the failure of modern architecture but rather valorise the problem of resilience when the needs for housing change.

The next paper equally concerns urban history. In *The tall building and urban space: In light of two modernist case studies*, Minna Chudoba observes how the role of tall buildings was seen very differently in two historical skyscraper projects by Le Corbusier and Eliel Saarinen respectively. Meanings attributed to tall buildings depended on the goals of urban planning and on understandings of urban space. In this way the paper succeeds in demonstrating essential differences within modern architectural history.

With regard to the legacy of modern architecture, in *Learning from precedent: The (ir)reproducibility of home* Ranald Lawrence discusses his own designs and their relation to earlier examples of modern architecture. Daylight was one of the issues that particularly interested the architects of the twentieth century. It also became an object of engineering studies, measurable and calculable. However, in architecture daylight depends on such other important aspects of design as the plan, fenestration, orientation and site. These are well described in the paper.

Questions of the contemporary architecture of social housing are discussed in *Affordable Housing Reimagined: In search of the neighbourly, spacious and rebuildable* by Michael Asgaard Andersen. He uses three recent buildings as key examples to illustrate respectively three recent themes in Danish social housing: 'the social', 'the formal' and 'the technological'. He consequently discusses the particular questions of each theme.

One way towards sustainability in residential construction is to apply green building certifications. *The potential contribution of wood in green building certifications: Prospects in sustainable residential buildings*, by Chiara Piccardo, Ashraful Alam and Mark Hughes, is the only technologically orientated paper of

¹ An example of ongoing research in the current programme is our project 'The changing concept of neighbourhood unit in a densifying city', <https://projects.tuni.fi/muuttuvalahio/esittely/in-english/>

this journal issue. The authors compare four certifications for the assessment of wood as a building material. The topic is increasingly important these days.

The last two papers deal with urban development. Tiina Hotakainen's *Timescapes beyond the metropolises: Culture-led urban regeneration in Myllytulli, Oulu* focuses on cultural policies. According to the author a temporal-analysis framework would provide a holistic approach to culture-led urban regeneration. Furthermore, different temporal categories illuminate various aspects of the regeneration process.

Although the last paper is in Finnish, an abstract is available in English. *Osallistava suunnittelu supistuvien kuntien taajamien kehittämisessä (A participative approach to developing population centres of shrinking municipalities)*, by Jonna Taegen and Tuula Kivinen, addresses the other side of urban growth elsewhere: the problem of shrinking municipalities. More information is needed for future urban policies and planning methods for these areas. Until now, urban planning has been based primarily on growth expectations.