



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 2016 issue.

Marginalia

ARCHITECTURES OF UNCERTAIN MARGINS

We envisage this 4th issue of *s/TA* as an opportunity to bring the “margins” in the center of the architectural debate. We believe that approaching their architecture, delving into local circumstances, rationale, mechanisms of configuration and historiography could fruitfully annotate the grand architectural narratives.

In the context of this volume, margins are understood not as mere limits, but as ambiguous grounds, split and constantly disputed between “empires” or stranded at their extremities, exposed to and shaped by intermittent or continuous influences of all kinds. They relate to provisional “centers”, neither remote enough to be completely ignored, nor close enough to be wholly accepted. Such territories seem to ceaselessly reinvent themselves across actual or virtual frontiers, transforming this unsettled state into cultural effervescence or resilience.

Architecture could be a significant witness to the specific condition and cultural dynamics of these territories, or effectively act upon them. Be it the work of important architects or of anonymous builders, this “marginal” architecture is particularly sensitive to fertile encounters, to the increasing or diminishing authority of a center, or, on the contrary, it establishes other cultural geometries. It could also reveal and define local specificities, often unexpectedly enduring, which history has ignored or mislabeled by taking for granted the arbitrary identities conferred by frontiers.

Although the subject foremost points to frontiers and borderlands, it does not exclude other kinds of margins that have been generated through historical or theoretical schematizations that sometimes entrap our reading of architecture.

Consequently, we invite contributors to reflect on the meaning of the margin in and for architecture, by examining:

- relevant architectural and planning aspects in marginal areas and approaches thereto;
- architecture and planning as instruments of political assertion (colonization, nation-building, official architecture vs. minor architecture, etc.);
- connections, mechanisms of interference, transfers of models (accepted or contested);
- identities in the wake of frontiers, the inertia of borders, “phantom borders”, leftovers of margins;
- margins set by the established historiography and their fallacies;
- specific narrative and theoretical perspectives, interpretation, etc.

We encourage theoretical reflections and critical approaches to such issues, anticipating surprising encounters between distant architectural experiences and their readings, significant associations between physical, conceptual and imaginary cultural geographies. Thus, we expect to contribute to a more comprehensive outline of our built environment and raise new questions for the further investigation of this inexhaustible subject.

The contributions should follow the guidelines below.

A preliminary abstract of 150 – 200 words should be submitted by **April 20, 2016**. Selected contributors will be notified by e-mail on **May 1**. The final article should be submitted for review by **July 1**.

Contributions will undergo a double-blind peer review procedure by independent reviewers.

All correspondence should be addressed to sita@uauim.ro, to the attention of Dr. Arch. Toader Popescu.

Guidelines for authors

(please see detailed guidelines at sita.uauim.ro)

Manuscripts are to be submitted in English and should range between 5,000 and 8,000 words, including references, tables, and bibliography. Reviews of current events (conferences, recently published books or journals, exhibitions), which are of interest for the fields of architectural history and theory are also welcome. Reviews should range between 1,000 and 2,000 words and must be submitted by July 1.

Contributors are asked to send a Microsoft Word compatible document, 1.5 spaced, with minimal formatting.

The title page should include the contributor’s name, affiliation and e-mail address, 5–7 keywords, as well as an abstract of 150–200 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.

For notes (as footnotes) and bibliography (included at the end of the paper) use The Chicago Manual of Style (for details and examples, see http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html).

A reference list will be included at the end of the paper. Illustrations (.tiff or .jpg format, min. 300 dpi at printed size), tables and charts must be provided separately, and their location must be indicated clearly throughout the paper. A full list of figure captions must 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.