

CALL FOR PAPERS:
INTERNATIONAL WITTGENSTEIN SYMPOSIUM

USE VALUE IN ARCHITECTURE:
RECONCEPTUALIZING
BUILDINGS' FUNCTIONS

WITTGENSTEIN HOUSE
VIENNA, AUSTRIA
17-18 AUGUST 2015



WITTGENSTEIN HOUSE, VIEW FROM STREET

Given the wealth of new ways of conceptualizing building, its practice, and its meanings, this call for papers prompts authors to reconceptualize the notion of buildings' functions in terms of use, particularly as is described in Wittgenstein's use theory.

By engaging one of philosophy's richest and most formidable postmodern thinkers — Ludwig Wittgenstein — the discourse surrounding function can move away from architecture's Modernist paradigm that has largely defined how we think about and deal with questions relating to function. Wittgenstein — who remains largely undealt with by the architectural discourse, but whose work has nevertheless had ample development from within the philosophical discourse — provides genuine contributions to the understanding of use and meaning. Specifically, the Wittgensteinian notion of meaning as use moves the discussion away from mechanical or systematic notions grounded in scientific enquiry, and instead focuses analysis on the particular context or language-game within which

KEYNOTES:

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a building partakes. Thus, the hope is to utilize Ludwig Wittgenstein's theory of meaning to achieve radically alternative analyses of building's use, thereby allowing for productive re-engagement with one of architecture's most fundamentally philosophical questions.

Lines of enquiry may include:

- Does a building mean in isolation from humans? Does a canonical building mean outside of its local socio-cultural context? Or does a building only mean within the architectural discourse that has canonized it?
- Within Wittgenstein's use-theory, does the distinction between building and architecture exist? In which contexts does this distinction hold meaning? Is the distinction still meaningful today?
- What is the use value of building in contemporary society? Are there new use values in building that suggest a shift in the trajectory of the building practice, of society, of culture?
- Does building itself challenge commonly accepted theories of meaning? Does building itself challenge commonly accepted readings of Wittgenstein's use-theory? Are there specific instances in which building can be shown as revealing limitations in Wittgenstein's theory of use?
- Does Wittgenstein's use theory supplant notions of the symbolic? Or does it give symbolism renewed significance? How do different types of architectural symbolism figure in Wittgenstein's use theory?

The symposium will take place between the 17th and 18th of August 2015 in the famous Wittgenstein house in Vienna, Austria. Given the unique and incredibly inspiring setting, space is limited.

Abstracts should be between 300 and 500 words. All submissions are due by **01 May 2015** submitted in RTF file format to isparchitecture@gmail.com.

For questions regarding the call for papers or the symposium please contact the acting editor for the issue and event organizer, Dr. Carolyn Fahey at carfahey@gmail.com. Refer to the ISPA website for the most up-to-date information regarding the event's organization.

A selection of the papers will be published as a special issue in *Architecture Philosophy*. Symposium delegates who wish to be considered for inclusion in the special issue will be asked to submit papers between 5,000 and 7,000 words by 01 December 2015. More details regarding full paper submission will be provided at the time of the event. In the meantime, detailed submission instructions for *Architecture Philosophy* are available in this printed journal as well as on the ISPA website at isparchitecture.com.

REVIEW CRITERIA

Architecture Philosophy conducts double-blind reviews of all papers submitted. Each paper is reviewed by one philosophy expert and one architecture expert. Reviewers are members of the editorial board and are asked to evaluate submissions according to the following criteria:

APPROPRIATENESS TO THE FIELD OF ARCHITECTURE PHILOSOPHY

Does the paper acknowledge and/or build on existing scholarship in both architecture and philosophy?

Does the paper acknowledge existing scholarship in philosophy and architecture respectively?

PHILOSOPHICAL ANALYSIS

Is philosophy engaged directly?

Is there an argument?

Is there analysis of the claims made?

Is the logic of the argument presented explicitly?

Are the paper's arguments valid and sound?

ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

Is architecture engaged directly?

Is architecture's relevant history/contemporary situation acknowledged?

Is architecture's history/contemporary situation dealt with accurately?

ORIGINALITY

Is this paper a contribution to knowledge?

Does the paper present new ways of solving philosophical problems in architecture (philosophy) or does it engage architecture to illustrate philosophical problems?

Does the paper present new ways of engaging architecture and the built environment?

PRESENTATION

Is the paper written in English to general academic writing standards for the humanities?

Does the paper follow the journal's submission guidelines?

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Please direct all submissions and general inquiries to isparchitecture@gmail.com. There are no deadlines for submissions, unless otherwise announced (e.g. special issue, conference proceedings, etc.).

SUBMISSION TYPES

Authors are invited to submit full papers, response pieces, and book reviews. Full papers should be between 4,000 and 5,000 words with a 200-300 word abstract, response pieces should be between 500 and 1,500 words, and book reviews between 1,000 to 2,000 words.

GENERAL FORMATTING

All submissions should be presented in accordance with the University of Chicago Style. Papers should be RTF documents, 12 point font, Times New Roman, double-spaced, and with no additional or otherwise unique formatting. References should be manually placed in brackets (e.g. [1], [2], and so on) with full citation information placed in the references section at the end of the document.

PHOTO GUIDELINES AND IMAGE PERMISSIONS

Images should be at least 300 dpi and read well in greyscale prints. The images should be submitted as individual files (TIFF or JPEG), in combination with proof of copyright permission. Authors are responsible for obtaining image permissions, and are asked to have done so prior to submitting their papers for review. The Oklahoma State University image archive is also available for use. Please send inquiries about the OSU image holdings to Prof. Tom Spector at tom.spector@okstate.edu.

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