



**2024
October
03-04**

**5th BALTIC CONFERENCE
of Emerging Scholars**

**in Architecture,
Landscape Architecture
and Urbanism**



**VILNIUS
TECH**

Architektūros
fakultetas

The 5th Baltic Conference of Emerging Scholars in Architecture, Landscape Architecture & Urbanism October 3-4, 2024



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Programme

Thursday, October 3, 2024

7.30 Meeting point: VILNIUS TECH, courtyard of the Faculty of Architecture, Trakų st. 1, Vilnius

11.00 The Museum of the Lost Shtetl in the town of Šeduva. Presentation in-situ with the architect Rainer Mahlamäki

13.30 Lunch break at the restaurant “Šeduvos malūnas”, Vytauto st. 89a, Šeduva

15.30 Workshop with dr. Mindaugas Reklaitis (for PhD students) / discussion (for professors), Šeduva Centre for Culture and Arts and Crafts, Vilnius st. 1, Šeduva

17.30 Departure by bus to Rokiškis town.

19.30 Accommodation in Rokiškis town
Free time

Friday, October 4, 2024. Rokiškis Manor House (Regional Museum)

8.45 Registration

9.00 Opening welcome

9.20-11.20 SESSION I

9.20-10.00 **Danielius Jurčiukonis**, VILNIUS TECH, Lithuania

Cultural Landscape: Concepts, Definitions and Classifications

10.00-10.40 **Kostas Biliūnas**, VILNIUS TECH, Lithuania

Landscape Influence on the Architecture of Late Baroque Churches in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania

10.40-11.20 **Eglė Januškienė**, KTU, Lithuania

How Children Perceive and Evaluate Landscape: an Overview of Studies and Methodological Insights

11.20-11.40 COFFEE BREAK

11.40-13.00 SESSION II

11.40-12.20 **Kseniia Sikorska,**

National University of Water and Environmental Engineering, Ukraine

The architectural heritage of the Roman Catholic Order of Piarists in the period of the XVII-XIX centuries in Western Ukraine

12.20-13.00 **Havva Buse Tuğtepe,** KTU, Lithuania

Social Housing Examples in Early Republican Turkey (1923-1938):
A Spatial and Architectural Approach

13.00-14.00 LUNCH BREAK

14.00-16.00 SESSION III

14.00-14.40 **Skaistė Vaivadaitė,** VILNIUS TECH, Lithuania

Historical Evolution of Marketplaces in Lithuanian Cities

14.40-15.20 **Indraja Raudonikytė,** KTU, Lithuania

Heritage Homesteads as Rural-Urban Hybrid Environments: Possibilities
to Create Sustainability Aesthetics

15.20-16.00 **Algimantas Grigas,** KTU, Lithuania

Operating Importance of Architectural Reviews: Implications for
Architectural Production and Perception in Soviet Lithuania

16.00-16.20 COFFEE BREAK

16.20-17.40 SESSION IV

16.20-17.00 **Karolina Rimkutė,** Vilnius Academy of Arts, Lithuania

Normalising Precarity Through the Co-optation of DIY Aesthetics in the
Baltic Countries

17.00-17.40 **Elina Elere,** dr. arch. **Andra Ulme,** Riga Technical University, Latvia

Criteria for Assessing the Creativity of Architectural Drawing in
21st-century Architectural Projects

Danielius Jurčiukonis
VILNIUS TECH, Lithuania

Cultural Landscape: Concepts, Definitions and Classifications

Keywords

Cultural landscape; Landscape science; Evolution of landscape concept; Cultural landscape classification; Spatial planning

Landscapes created by humans and reflecting their coexistence with the environment are dominant in the modern world, making their understanding an important and relevant scientific field. This presentation provides an introduction and overview to PhD research on cultural landscapes. The report presents the emergence of the concept of cultural landscape and its use in the early stages of landscape science in the 19th century (admittedly only in the Western world approach). The evolution of the use of the term cultural landscape over time is reviewed, presenting the approaches and traditions of several different countries. In addition to the idea of understanding and interpreting the term in different countries and time periods, different disciplinary approaches to the use of the term are outlined. The presentation provides an overview of geographical, urban, architectural, heritage and natural paradigms of cultural landscape. Another important aspect is the classification, categorisation and typology of cultural landscapes. Depending on the discipline and the objective, classifications can vary considerably – this talk highlights several classifications and types of cultural landscape. Finally, the legislative treatment of the term and the concept in world cultural heritage policy and the use in the Lithuanian spatial planning system are examined.

Kostas Biliūnas
VILNIUS TECH, Lithuania

Landscape Influence on the Architecture of Late Baroque Churches in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania

Keywords

Architectural phenomenology; Combined contextuality method; Landscape; Late Baroque

The dissertation research analyses the problem of contextuality in relation to the natural elements of the landscape. The research object is masonry churches of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, covering the time period from approximately 1730s to 1770s. The theoretical part examines the language of Late Baroque architecture itself. It also explores the concepts of nature characteristic of the period from the perspective of architectural theory and philosophy. The practical part analyses a few dozen architectural ensembles on the basis of a phenomenological approach. A combined contextuality method is introduced. It is based on the principles of the philosophy of phenomenology, from which the concept of the two-layeredness of an architectural or natural object originates. It enables each situation to be seen with a sensitive gaze, not only visually but also through bodily experience. The phenomenological research is not subjective, it aims to approach the universal, “timeless” features of the natural environment and architecture, respectively. The juxtaposition of architectural archetypes and the character traits of the natural environment makes it possible to observe a certain dependence of architectural expression on the landscape. The research of the churches from several voivodeships of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania has highlighted specific features that suggest the existence of such a relationship. The architectural expressions of Late Baroque churches are very diverse. This study reveals the factors that condition it: these are tangible patterns that allow the expression to be linked to the dominant character of the place. The two most prominent principles characteristic of both the natural environment and architecture, are horizontality and verticality. It can be explained by considering pre-modern architecture as having an invisible layer of meaning, part of which is the world created by God, and more specifically, the natural landscape of the place. The research is relevant for a deeper understanding of the last pre-modern architectural style. It can also be beneficial for critical analysis of contemporary architecture, which is rarely able to create a harmonious relationship with the natural environment.

How Children Perceive and Evaluate Landscape: an Overview of Studies and Methodological Insights

Keywords

Landscape perception; Landscape evaluation; Children; Sociocultural factors; Demographic factors

Urbanization is a growing global phenomenon that is predicted to continue increasing in the future. These increasing levels of urbanization have a direct impact on children. More and more children are living in urban environments where environmental factors have a great influence on their cognitive development and health. Due to this, the inclusion of children in urban landscape planning is becoming a relevant topic: friendly city initiatives are being developed worldwide, mini-cities are being created for children in the cities, workshops are being organized for children to understand how they imagine the surroundings around them, especially when these topics are related to environmental problems. However, despite the significant contribution of children to local social life, their involvement in urban planning remains superficial. The problem lies not only in the resources necessary to integrate children's opinions into planning actions but also in the lack of understanding of how to get the children's knowledge revealing what is important for them in the environment for their optimal physical, emotional, mental, social, etc. development. i.e. what are the main criteria of children's landscape evaluation and creation of children's favorable environment? The aim of this study is to analyze and systematize existing scientific research in the field of children's landscape perception and evaluation and to propose methodological insights for the analysis of landscape perception and evaluation of children up to the age of 12 for urban planning purposes as well as to investigate the links between children's preferences and sociocultural and demographic factors. The main findings were obtained using a systematic analysis of the literature. Children's landscape perception is a multi-layered process that includes not only visual but also emotional, cognitive, demographic, and social aspects. Based on these studies, the article also discusses methodological aspects that contribute to a better understanding of children's landscape perception and evaluation. Methodological insights are developed by relating Piaget's stages of child development to theories of environmental perception that underpin the importance of movement in perception. The results of this study underline that it is necessary to create landscapes that promote children's cognitive, physical, and social development. It is important to include their opinions and experience in landscape planning to achieve such results. Further research should explore in more depth how different cultural and social contexts affect children's perceptions and how research methodology can be improved to obtain more comprehensive data.

The architectural heritage of the Roman Catholic Order of Piarists in the period of the XVII-XIX centuries in Western Ukraine

Keywords

Order of Piarists; Parish complex; Collegium

The architectural heritage of the Order of Piarists on the territory of Ukraine was researched. The peculiarities of the parish complexes of the Roman Catholic monastic Order of Piarists were studied and a historical review of the influence of the order's activities on the development of culture, education and architecture of Ukraine was carried out. The geography of the branches of the Order of Piarists on the territory of Western Ukraine has been determined. The parish complexes of the Order of Piarists in the following settlements were researched: the Church of John the Baptist with an ensemble in Dubrovysia (Rivne region), the architectural complex of the Church of St. John the Evangelist in Lyubeshiv (Volyn region), the Church of St. Anthony in Velyki Mezhyrichi (Rivne region), Collegium Nobilium Theresianum in Lviv (Lviv region), the Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Zolochiv (Lviv region), the Church of the Exile of the Apostles and the College of PR in Chelm (Poland).

From the end of the 14th century, at different times, about 20 Roman Catholic orders operated in Volyn alone, which created hundreds of their centers - monasteries, churches and parish complexes. Only part of the buildings have survived to this day, but the vast majority of them are in satisfactory condition, and some are even operational, which expands the opportunities for field surveys and direct work on locations. Each order that functioned in Western Ukraine brought its characteristic features and fundamental differences to architecture (especially temple architecture). As part of the research, field surveys of the preserved churches of St. John the Baptist in the city of Dubovytsia and St. John of St. Anthony in the village of Velyki Mezhyrichi were carried out. Photofixation was performed, measurements were taken, and fixation drawings were prepared. Conducted theoretical and empirical studies demonstrate that the architectural heritage of the Order of Piarists was formed under the influence of the late Renaissance and early and late Baroque and Rococo. The construction of PR colleges was actively supported by local authorities until the 1830s. In the construction of parish complexes, the Piarists order used a complex approach (they included collegiums, churches, botanical gardens, and service buildings). The best masters of their time, mainly from European countries, were involved in the design of Piarists' collegiums and churches, which led to the introduction of diversity into the architectural solutions of buildings of the same typological group, by borrowing individual architectural elements. Some of the church buildings were destroyed by the Soviet authorities in 1960-1970 (in particular, the church of St. John the Evangelist in Lyubeshiv). The existing state of a significant part of the surviving architectural heritage of the Order of Piarists is unsatisfactory and requires active research and further restoration and conservation measures.

Havva Buse Tuğtepe

Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania

Social Housing Examples in Early Republican Turkey (1923-1938): A Spatial and Architectural Approach

Keywords

Modernism; Social housing; Industrialization; Worker Housing; Early Republican Turkey

This presentation examines the architectural, sociological, and spatial dimensions of social housing developed in Turkey between 1923 and 1938. The workers' housing that emerged alongside the industrialization efforts of the early Republican period not only addressed the functional needs of industry but also embodied the ideological and social aspirations of the era. These housing units serve as key examples of the social housing models characteristic of the period.

Particularly in certain industrial zones, these housing complexes were strategically designed to enhance the living conditions of workers while simultaneously fostering social cohesion. Architecturally influenced by principles of modernism, these structures were intended to both optimize labor productivity and contribute to the formation of a modern society. This presentation explores the impact of state-led modernization policies on architectural practices and everyday life through a detailed analysis of the spatial configurations of these housing units.

Grounded in archival research and the analysis of historical plans, this study seeks to illuminate the ways in which industrialization and state policies between 1923 and 1938 shaped the spatial and social fabric of the time.

Historical Evolution of Marketplaces in Lithuanian Cities

Keywords

Urban structure; Market; Public space; Town hall; Urban history

Urban marketplaces are a complex, multi-component phenomenon inseparable from the process of urbanization. The earliest cities are typically analyzed based on their layout and appearance. By the 10th century, guilds of merchants began to emerge in Lithuania, and markets gathered in the most important trading areas. Therefore, elements typical of early feudal city plans, like squares, could have been found. The subject of study is the marketplace in four different types of cities - radial, mixed, rectangular, and linear plan cities.

The report aims to review the evolution of marketplaces in different types of Lithuanian cities up to the Second World War, identifying their location, layout, form, and size function. To systematize and summarize the data obtained from scientific literature and archival sources. As case studies, four Lithuanian cities of different plans were chosen: Vilnius - an example of a radial city plan; Kaunas - representing a mixed city plan; Klaipėda - an example of a rectangular city plan model; Veliuona - the only surviving linear plan town.

In Veliuona, there was the only triangular market square, located away from the main street intersection. In Vilnius, the radial plan was created by main roads converging towards the city center where the market square was located. The streets converging onto the new square formed the second - central market (Town Hall) square. As the city expanded, markets emerged in the suburbs. In Klaipėda, trading took place on wider street(s). The only rectangular market square appeared in the early 18th century. The central area being planned into rectangular blocks with a market square altered Kaunas's original mansion city layout, aligning with the city's growing economic significance. The city plans vividly reflected the stages of market development, serving as the morphological foundation and contributing to the identity formation of the cities.

Indraja Raudonikytė
Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania

Heritage Homesteads as Rural-Urban Hybrid Environments: Possibilities to Create Sustainability Aesthetics

Keywords

Sustainability aesthetics; Rural heritage; Environmentally friendly settlement; Hybridization of homesteads; Future architecture solutions

Finding secure, peaceful living spaces in urban areas is increasingly difficult, as urban sprawl encroaches on natural landscapes, creating concrete jungles. For those not tethered to city life, such as remote workers, craftsmen, and creatives, rural living offers a sustainable alternative. Rural areas in Lithuania and neighboring countries host numerous abandoned homesteads and manors, often with existing infrastructure like roads, electricity, water, plumbing, and internet connectivity.

Skeptics argue that renovating these old structures is more costly than building new, cheap-framed homes. However, when considering infrastructure investments, material costs, and the quality of life offered by heritage homesteads, the perspective shifts. Although initially underestimated, with professional renovation and investment, these old estates can become highly attractive, even for those accustomed to urban living. Historical homesteads were strategically located by experienced builders who selected sites for their natural protection and suitability for human needs. These locations, chosen for shelter, dry land, and safe surroundings, catered perfectly to small farmers and estate owners. Instead of constantly seeking new solutions, we can adapt these historically validated living arrangements to contemporary needs, utilizing sustainable aesthetics and technologies to create harmonious hybrid rural-urban hybrid environments. This presentation focuses on the question of sustainability aesthetics - the aesthetic expression of sustainable lifestyles - in the heritage homesteads adapted to contemporary needs in Lithuania and identifies the aspects of good practice and potential problems and challenges.

Algimantas Grigas
Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania

Operating Importance of Architectural Reviews: Implications for Architectural Production and Perception in Soviet Lithuania

Keywords

**Architectural Criticism; Periodicals; Soviet Modernism; Lithuanian
Architecture**

This research examines the role of Soviet Lithuanian periodical press, cultural, and professional journals in shaping public perception and architectural production from 1945 to 1990. These publications often provided progress reports on new construction projects and cautious evaluations of just finished prominent public buildings and residential neighborhoods. The built environment was extensively utilized for propaganda, portraying the visual image of Socialism to influence societal perceptions. Architects and engineers, working within centralized planning institutes, used internal architectural criticism to identify architects that are more inclined to deliver quality projects. Strategic large scale decisions required input from architectural scientists and necessitated wider discussions in relation to nature, available resources and technologies, historic architecture and human comfort. It is not neglected the fact that in Soviet Lithuania public media was widely censored and used to control the stylistic or construction decisions. Occasionally, professional debates within these institutes or at governmental level seeped through to the public press discussions. This study, through archival research of selected case studies (like the competition between V. Landsbergis-Žemkalnis and F.Vitas for the extension of State M.K.Čiurlionis Art Museum in Kaunas) and analysis of periodicals, aims to uncover the bidirectional exchange between architectural publicity and the decisions of architects. Specifically, it investigates whether Soviet Modernist architecture was an entirely controlled activity or if media occasionally had the possibility to influence the architectural decisions. By exploring these interactions, the research seeks to understand and delineate how architects perceived and produced Soviet Modernist architecture during the separate periods of Lithuanian Occupation. The purpose of this research is to expose and substantiate the motivation of those who created the architecture themed texts: was it political career, professional titles with associated financial rewards or a genuine interest in the built environment.

Karolina Rimkutė
Vilnius Academy of Arts, Lithuania

Normalising Precarity Through the Co-optation of DIY Aesthetics in the Baltic Countries

Keywords

Precarity; Counterculture; Gentrification; Squatting; Co-optation

The precariat – a newly suggested social class which gained prominence in the early 21st century, defined by the precarious economic circumstances due to unstable employment and housing situations – is one of the latest and most interesting topics in the contemporary cultural field. In the stage of late capitalism, the intensely occurring various neoliberal economic strategies make a substantial impact on society and generate a number of socio-cultural transformations, often normalising the precarious state of living. This presentation aims to identify how the state of precariousness is being normalised through the co-optation of countercultural DIY practices in the processes of urban gentrification. Although most countercultural formations consciously adopt precarious DIY strategies as a means to oppose consumerism, the co-optation of its aesthetic elements into the dominant culture neutralises the countercultural meaning – it not only encourages consumerism but also normalises precarious economic conditions by repackaging them as a financially efficient and attractive lifestyle. Simultaneously, the original countercultural strategies are being not only diminished but often abolished altogether. This phenomenon is especially interesting when examining countries that lack deep-rooted countercultural squatting traditions, such as the Baltic countries. By analysing cases of local countercultural DIY spaces and commercial venues that co-opt the countercultural aesthetics in the Baltics, this study reveals that the local commercial venues do not co-opt the aesthetics of local countercultural practices; instead, they emulate the aesthetics of foreign commercial venues, which co-opt local countercultural aesthetics from their own regions. This aesthetic development highlights the complex transnational currents of cultural appropriation and the struggles local countercultures face within the global context of neoliberal capitalism.

Elina Elere, Dr. Arch. Andra Ulme
Riga Technical University, Latvia

Criteria for Assessing the Creativity of Architectural Drawing in 21st century Architectural Projects

Keywords

Architecture; Architect's drawing; Artistic criteria for drawing; methods of drawing evaluation

Subject of the study. Criteria of creativity in architectural drawing in determining the artistic quality of project graphics. The work deals with drawings of students and professional architects of RTU Institute of Architecture and Design and schools of architecture and works of winners of architectural competitions. The aim of the research To summarize the factors influencing the handwriting of an architect's or architecture student's drawing on the project graphics.

Objectives of the study. To carry out a literature analysis. To compare the methods and criteria of different schools of evaluation. To make observations and compare the drawings and project graphics of 21st century architecture students. To compile a list of competition winners and project graphics. To find out what criteria of creativity influence the selection of winners in architectural competitions. To collect data on what influential factors determine the aesthetics of visual expression of architects or architectural teams. To structure the data according to the criteria of artistic quality developed by the author. Identify artistic criteria and methods in the graphic design of architectural projects that achieve recognition. To summarise and define criteria for drawing quality. To analyse the changes in graphic quality and visual graphics historically and within authorship within the framework of the study.

Research methodology. Comparative analysis method comparing similar and dissimilar drawings and the historical development of project graphics. To summarise the changes in graphic quality and performance of architectural drawing over time. To make observations in the student environment after the pandemic and compare with the time before the pandemic. The sources of the research are RTU students' works, collected works of AARHUs school drawing competitions, visualizations of RTU students' hand drawings. The author discusses in the research paper the drawing works and project schedule of RTU preparatory courses and study time. It is observed that with increasing workload in studies less time is enough for the study of drawing from nature and future members of the profession do not even learn the acquired skills (reference to the survey). Identify architectural drawing and design competitions in Latvia and worldwide.

130 student entries from 19-2024 inclusive and the 21st century are considered. The works of architectural laureates in design competitions at LV level and the works of architectural drawing competition laureates from 2017-2024 in major competitions worldwide. By collecting the names of the authors on paper and digitally, which have been selected in the collection across the centuries, the author has transcribed the surnames and made an overview of how the authors of the collection have entered the architectural profession. The authors have taken part in competitions, architectural projects, architectural firms, practices and have been included: 1. Expert interviews on the topic under study; 2. interviews of experts in the field of architecture; 3 Qualitative and quantitative data analysis; 4. Critical analysis; 5. Graph-analytical method.

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