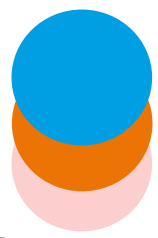


# CHAIR FOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA



## 28-30.11.2024 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 20TH CENTURY HOUSING HERITAGE IN EUROPE: CONSERVING, PARTICIPATING AND ADAPTING





# Introduction



# 20TH CENTURY HOUSING HERITAGE IN EUROPE: CONSERVING, PARTICIPATING AND ADAPTING

## 28-30.11.2024, VIENNA

The conference focusses on housing concepts and built settlements of the 20th century, which often explicitly addressed hygienical, ecological, communal, and social issues and necessities. We ask how these heritage values can be conserved for the sake of sustainable futures. Forms of use, social interaction, and participation might contribute to the care and careful adaptation of such sites, but also create conflicts. Various actors – from business, politics, conservation, and civil society – define, appropriate, and manage this housing heritage and need to be involved. The conference also examines housing and climate policies, development pressure, and vacancy as powerful contexts.

We aim for an exchange of theories, reflections, and approaches in practice within the European context of conservation and planning; and specifically address those settlements that have gained listed status due to their artistic and architectural values, their planning ideas and urban design, and their social concepts. How do different actors value and manage these settlements today?

### ORGANISED BY

*TU Wien – Denkmalpflege und  
Bauen im Bestand  
Prof. Heike Oevermann and  
Johann Gallis, Luisa Omonsky*

*Bauhaus-Universität Weimar –  
Stadtplanung  
Prof. Barbara Schönig and  
Lena Hecker*

### In cooperation with the

*Bundesdenkmalamt Österreich  
– BDA / Heritage Conservation  
Authorities Austria  
Österreichische Gesellschaft für  
Architektur – ÖGfA / Austrian  
Society for Architecture*

### Venue

*TU Wien, Festsaal, Karlsplatz 13,  
1040 Wien  
November 28th, 2024 to  
November 30th, 2024*

Research shows that heritage values, social concepts, and sustainable futures defined by inhabitants and housing communities may differ from those of owners, politics, or heritage authorities. We note three important trends that take effect on housing heritage:

Firstly, heritage places are used for economic benefit. This can reinforce rising land and rent prices, as housing in general is increasingly commodified and upgraded, especially in cities facing development pressure. For the middle classes with an affinity for culture, living in a listed building might serve as mark of distinction; in turn, landlords may increasingly select particular types of tenants. These two factors strengthen gentrification and homogenisation processes amongst residents, and have an exclusionary effect that explicitly contradicts social concepts and needs.

Secondly, we observe housing vacancies in structurally weak regions and marginal districts, where population decline, housing preferences, as well as a lack of investment have contributed to the deterioration of settlements. Owners may oppose certain restrictions and costs associated with formal heritage designation, and potential residents may dislike the very characteristics for which heritage settlements are listed, such as their historic layouts, apartments, and communal spaces.

# 20TH CENTURY HOUSING HERITAGE IN EUROPE: CONSERVING, PARTICIPATING AND ADAPTING 28-30.11.2024, VIENNA

Thirdly, we must carefully protect our listed heritage assets and adapt them for and due to the challenges of climate change. Some settlement concepts and building structures might not meet future requirements, such as reducing car dependency.

While these trends might play out differently at different places and beyond the conflictive arena there might be opportunities for residents to create a sense of belonging due to the conserved cultural and architectural qualities of housing heritage.

We want to understand in more detail if and how heritage values shape community participation, community-building, and common care for the settlement and how do residents in turn (re)discover and (re)define and appropriate heritage values. Not least, we want to address how processes of resident appropriation and identification but also issues of property, tenure and place might foster or prevent historic settlements to be conserved and adapted to future needs.

The five sub-themes are discussed Thursday, November 28th, starting 13.00 and Friday, November 29th, starting 9.00 in the conference room (Festsaal der TU Wien). For the evenings and Saturday, November 30th, activities are planned in cooperation with the Bundesdenkmalamt (BDA) and Österreichische Gesellschaft für Architektur (ÖGfA).



# Programme



# Thursday, 28th November

VENUE: Festsaal, TU Wien

**12.30** Registration

**13.00 Welcome + Introduction**

*Heike Oevermann, Vienna*

**13.45 Session 1:**

**Heritage Values, Actors Perspectives and Built Concepts**

*Chair: Heike Oevermann, Vienna*

**Cold War Housing Heritage in the Making. The case of Ştei, Romania**

*L. Iuga, Aachen/O. C. Tiganea, Milano*

**Reasoning the Modernity of the Working-Class Residential Complex at Aspra Spitia**

*Aristotelis Antoniou, Vienna*

**The Norwegian Garden City: An ambiguous urban heritage**

*Even Smith Wergeland, Oslo*

**15.00** Coffee Break

**15.30 Session 2:**

**Accessibility, Uses, and Forms of Living**

*Chair: Tino Mager, Groningen/Berlin*

**Common Areas as a Polygon for Adaptable Multi-family Housing of the 20th Century in Serbia**

*Borjan Brankov, Belgrade*

**Mental health and city making in Vigne Nuove - Reloading modern heritage in Rome**

*Giovanni Caudo/Federica Fava, Rome*

**How do the social interactions of the inhabitants of Georgian cities and their practices of caring for the urban space depend on the different types of urban morphology?**

*Snezhana Grozovskaya, Israel*

**18.00 Evening Programme with Bundesdenkmalamt Austria: Saving the unsaved! Perspectives for non-listed housing heritage in Austria**

*Chair: Levente Polyak, Budapest*

VENUE: Alte WU, Auditorium 4

**Opening:** *Christoph Bazil, Vienna*

**Introduction:** *Paul Mahringer/Heike Oevermann, Vienna*

**Panel discussion:**

*Monika Platzer, Vienna /Andrea Jany, Graz /Albert Kirchengast, Cottbus*



# Friday, 29th November

VENUE: Festsaal, TU Wien

## 09.00 Keynote + Discussion

*John Pendlebury, Newcastle*

## 09.45 Session 3: Challenges, Practices, and Future

*Chair: Levente Polyak, Budapest*

### **Heritage policies and urban heritage conservation in Vienna. Adapting housing heritage of the early 20th century**

*Cristian Abrihan, Wiesbaden*

### **A sustainable Housing for the 21st century in Lisbon: when the social comes together with architecture to empower heritage values**

*Ana Tostões, Lisbon*

## 10.45 Coffee Break

## 11.15 Session 4: Ownership, Tenure, and Appropriation of Heritage

*Chair: Barbara Schöning, Weimar*

### **Comparative Analysis of Socioeconomic Transformations in Affordable Housing Projects: A Case Study of Koşuyolu and Selamsız in Istanbul**

*Hande Tunç, Istanbul*

### **The Red Tower: The Centre of Speculation**

*Natalie Heger/Ruth Schlögl, Frankfurt*

### **Warsaw Housing Cooperative. Heritage of radical utopia in a neoliberal city**

*Weronika Parfianowicz, Warsaw*

## 12.45 Lunch Break

Chair: Luisa Omonsky, Vienna

### **A brand-new urban settlement between 1920s and 1930s: the company-town of Dalmine**

*Giulio Mirabella Roberti/Monica Resmini, Bergamo*

### **The socialist housing heritage in post-socialist Europe: conflicts of value for the recognition of the ordinary heritage of the 20th century in Iași and Timișoara, Romania**

*Amandine Dargaud, Lyon/Timișoara*

### **The doings of the post-Yugoslav Homo Faber: manifesto of care, curated decay, a policy or none of the above?**

*Sonja Lakić, Paris*

### **First Mass-Housing Project of a new Republic as a modern Heritage Conservation Problem: Saraçoğlu Neighborhood**

*Azize Elif Yabacı, Ankara*

### **Theoretical Discussion in Czechoslovakia on the Quality of Housing in the 1950s and 1960s**

*Lenka Popelová, Prague*

### **Hôtel Wolfers: Proposal for an Exhibition Space**

*Ursula Pokorny, Düsseldorf*

### **Restore, Reconstruct, Reinvent. Factors shaping worker's housing conservation practices in Upper Silesia**

*Dominika Zyśk, Warsaw*

### **A History of Modern Japanese Collective Housing and the Need to Learn from the Succession of Collective Housing in Europe**

*Toshio Otsuki, Tokyo*

# Friday, 29th November

## 14.30 Session 5:

### Participation, Diversity, and Sense of Belonging

VENUE: Festsaal, TU Wien

Chair: Lena Hecker, Weimar

#### **Heritage management through condominiums: participation and belonging in Gründerzeit Budapest**

*Hanna Szemző, Budapest*

#### **The ernst-may-gesellschaft and the model house of the Neues Frankfurt**

*Christina Treutlein, Frankfurt*

#### **Rethinking approaches to residential heritage conservation in the face of urban shrinkage in a European context**

*Elena Batunova, Aachen*

## 16.00 Coffee Break

## 16.30 Panel discussion: About Vienna

Chair: Heike Oevermann, Vienna

#### **The Prospect of Workers Housing Estates in Austria**

*Petra Kickenweitz, Graz*

#### **The forgotten Viennese housing experiment of „Alte-Leute-Siedlungen“**

*Christina Schraml, Vienna*

#### **The Wiener Cottage Association: a civil society initiative**

*Wolfgang H. Gräsel, Vienna*

## 17.30 Summary

*Barbara Schönig, Weimar*

*Heike Oevermann, Vienna*

*Tino Mager, Groningen/Berlin*

## ACCOMPANYING PROGRAMME

### Wednesday, 27th November

VENUE: Festsaal, TU Wien

#### 19.00

#### **A History of Modern Japanese Collective Housing and the Need to Learn from the Succession of Collective Housing in Europe**

*Toshio Otsuki, Tokyo*

### Saturday, 30th November

#### **Various Excursions on Housing Heritage in Vienna organised by ÖGfA**

# MAP PROGRAMME



**1**  
**MAIN VENUE**  
**TU WIEN, FESTSAAL**  
**KARLSPLATZ 13**  
**1040 VIENNA**

*nearest train station to  
venue:  
Karlsplatz (U4 & U1)*

**2**  
**BDA EVENING**  
**THURSDAY**  
**ALTE WU**  
**AUDITORIUM 4**  
**AUGASSE 2/6**  
**1090 VIENNA**

*nearest train station to  
venue:  
Spittelau (U4 & U6)*







# Heritage Values, Actors Perspectives and Built Concepts

**Session 1**

## Cold War Housing Heritage in the Making. The case of Ștei, Romania

*L. Iuga, Aachen/O. C. Țiganea, Milano/I. Tulbure-Moldovan, Bucharest*

In the Romanian legislation for monument protection, the category of “residential heritage” is hardly considered. Our research in the town of Ștei in Western Romania is trying to question the approaches to the conceptualization and management of residential heritage by observing the residents’ practices of appropriation, transformation, care and maintenance, while also considering the approach of institutional actors towards this heritage. Built in the vicinity of a uranium mine in the 1950s as part of the Soviet nuclear infrastructure in Eastern Europe, the town is a well-preserved example of Soviet-style urban design and socialist realist architecture, quite unique considering the built legacy of Romania’s recent past. In the local jargon, words such as BWs (bungalow) and DKs are still widely used, although nobody can recall the significance of these terms, except for the obvious association with the “Russian town”.

In the absence of archival materials from the 1950s, the built environment became the main source of documentation. The analysis of construction materials and techniques for both housing and cultural infrastructure revealed, for example, that Ștei was built as a temporary settlement, many buildings, including the monumental ones, being made out of prefabricated timber panels. After the Soviets left in the late 1950s, the Romanian residents transformed it into a permanent town, developing it further. In the 1990s, following housing privatization, residents made various interventions according to their taste, needs and financial capacities. Improving energy efficiency and utilities represented one of the main concerns.

Still, the town is remarkably well preserved as an ensemble. The Municipality had some initiatives for recognizing its historical value, by becoming part of the European network ATRIUM. However, listing the town would generate potential conflicts with the residents, as it would limit their freedom of intervention. What solutions would be available in this context, and how could the divergent interests of various stakeholders be accommodated? How can the community become more involved in the process of heritage-making, and how can we better understand their approach towards housing as heritage?

**Liliana Iuga** is a Research Associate at RWTH Aachen University (Germany), currently working on residential heritage in the Eastern European context, as part of the project “cities.building.culture”. She received her PhD from the Central European University, Budapest (Hungary).

**Oana Țiganea** graduated from the Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning from Cluj-Napoca (Romania) and has a PhD in “Preservation of Architectural Heritage” at Politecnico di Milano (Italy). She is an Assistant Professor in “Architectural Preservation” at DASTU - Politecnico di Milano where she develops didactic and research activities focused on the 20th-century-built legacy.

**Irina Tulbure** is Associate Professor at the University of Architecture and Urbanism in Bucharest, Romania, teaching modern and contemporary history of architecture. She is also involved in research projects (publications and cultural projects) addressing mainly the architecture of the recent past.



## Reasoning the Modernity of the Working-Class Residential Complex at Aspra Spitia

*Aristotelis Antoniou, Vienna*

The exploration of Modern building heritage, from classical to post-war and late modernist periods, reveals numerous paradoxes, urging the need to structure a comprehensive approach that encompasses its historical essence, architectural language and cultural facets. This necessity arises due to the constantly evolving nature of the object of research (Modernism and Modern Heritage) and its definition over time. Consequently, as we distance ourselves from an objective historical narrative, including its cultural aspects, becomes a complex and abstract project.

More exactly, the paper examines a post-war Modernist urban landscape, Aspra Spitia, (White Residencies), by K. Doxiadis, in the rural district of Greece. It consists of a working class province, built to address the requirements of labourers employed in the lignite mining industry, where Doxiadis implement the ideas of Modern movement, its critic to the latter and the local identity. It is maybe the only realised example of urban planning in Greece, which recently was turned into a smart-city (in terms of energy and residential activities), unveiling similarities between the abstract framework of modernity and present-day perspectives. The transition though, faces challenges if legislative frameworks fail to define stakeholder roles, risking a shift toward a solely financial perspective on sustainability and ecology, sidelining heritage considerations. Understanding how various stakeholders interpret modern heritage within institutionalised architectural production systems is crucial. The research seeks to illuminate the role of conservation, providing insights into the complexities and challenges of protecting modern heritage.

The complex perspective of abstraction and realisation in conserving post-war modern heritage significantly informs architectural, cultural, legislative, and practical (preservation principles) approaches, affecting decision-making and the values embedded in building heritage, crucially addressing future challenges in this realm.

**Aristotelis Antoniou** is a PhD student at the Vienna University of Technology, where he is working on his dissertation entitled „From Abstraction to Realisation - Conserving the Architectural Concept of Modern Heritage“. His supervisor is Prof. Heike Oevermann.

## The Norwegian Garden City: An ambiguous urban heritage

*Even Smith Wergeland, Oslo*

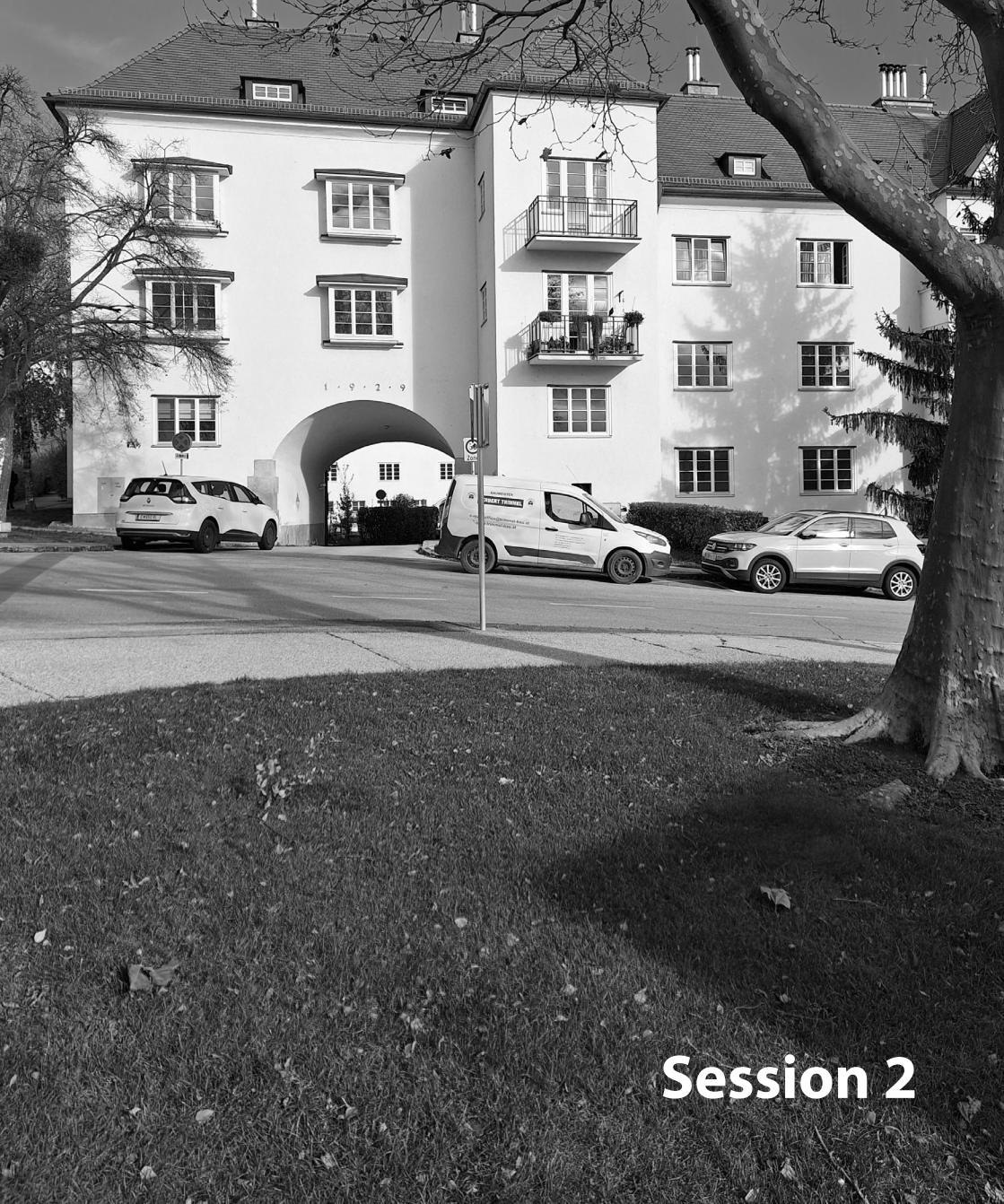
The garden city movement had a profound impact on Norwegian planning and architecture, prompting numerous garden city-inspired settlements across the country. While the first wave (ca. 1900-1925) was based on the English template as propagated by Ebenezer Howard and put to practice by architects like Raymond Unwin, the second wave (ca. 1925-1940) was rooted in evolving ideas about Nordic building quality and Norwegian vernacular architecture. From a socio-economic point of view, this heralded a shift from working-class housing to detached homes for the middle class. On the one hand, the garden city concept grew closer to Norwegian traditions. On the other, it moved further away from Howard's original vision of improved living conditions for workers. Both the architectural layout and the social implications fueled accusations of a "watering-out" of the garden city concept.

Today, when such settlements are moving into upscale housing markets, their legacy and legitimacy has come under scrutiny once again. Through a detailed study of one example, Sinsen Garden City in Oslo, this paper discusses the second wave of Norwegian garden cities in light of topics like densification, sustainability, affordability and neighborhood satisfaction.

A key argument is that it is intrinsically ambiguous as an urban heritage, since the positive factors – architectural quality, spaciousness and immediate access to green space for the residents – always rub against the negatives – social exclusion, low density and lack of urban range. Its importance in Norwegian architectural history is undisputable but its current status as a living heritage is unstable, making it notoriously difficult to manage within the confinements of traditional preservation planning.

**Even Smith Wergeland** is Associate Professor at the Institute of Architecture at the Oslo School of Architecture and Design, specialising in architectural history, planning and heritage. He directs AHO's Executive Master's in Architectural Heritage and holds an MA in Art History from the University of Bergen and a PhD from the Oslo School of Architecture, focusing on Olympic architecture and post-war mobility in planning. Wergeland has worked as a researcher at Royal Holloway, OsloMet and the Norwegian University of Life Sciences, and has experience as an urban planner in Stavanger and Oslo.

# Accessibility, Uses, and Forms of Living



**Session 2**

# Common Areas as a Polygon for Adaptable Multi-family Housing of the 20th Century in Serbia

*Borjan Brankov, Belgrade*

Protection of the 20th-century housing heritage in Serbia is in its early phase. Just recently initiatives started to act regarding the protection of the 20th-century housing complexes - the first one being Cerak Vinogradi, and soon after in 2021 New Belgrade Central zone became protected as a cultural-historical area. This implies that these areas will be prototypes in terms of maintenance, and possible and needed adequate adaptations of their housing areas.

Considering this the paper focuses on exploring the spaces of common areas in buildings of multi-family housing as a polygon for the research on how and can the spaces be adapted through use in time. Research focuses on analyzing the original architectural projects and the current state of space, to explore their possibility to be further developed to adapt to new activities and users.

Adaptation is operationalized through different spatial principles that include the principle of polyvalence, flexibility, mobility (e.g. fluidity of space), extensions of space, and compression or division of space). These principles will be tested through a minimum of three selected buildings from the three of New Belgrade's central blocks (Blocks 21, 22, and 28) and their accompanying common areas.

The results of the paper will be the proposal of specific models of uses of common areas and also narrower insight into current and potential problems of uses of these spaces and relations of private and semipublic in these spaces.

The potential of this research paper is to create a beginning phase, or a base, for defining general adaptation measures and improving the state of recently protected housing complexes of the 20th century in Serbia.

**Borjan Brankov** is a PhD. candidate at the Architecture Faculty University of Belgrade and a researcher at the Institute of Architecture and Urban&Spatial Planning of Serbia, research fields include multi-family housing, urban design, and urban planning. Thesis title: Development of contemporary models of temporariness in the conceptualization of common areas in multi-family housing.

## **Mental health and city making in Vigne Nuove - Reloading modern heritage in Rome**

*Giovanni Caudo/Federica Fava, Rome*

The linkage between medicine and architecture is an old motive. As the vaunted X-ray architecture by Colomina recalls, the medical obsession for tuberculosis has led all modern architecture, reflecting in both its spatialities and usages. In the post-WWII, in Italy likewise in many European countries, hygienic principles matched with the need to guarantee a house for all. However, with the approval of the bill nr. 43 Measures to increase blue-collar employment by facilitating the construction of workers' housing, the Italian case opened up a peculiar urban discourse, firmly connecting housing, spatial production, work and welfare.

Vigne Nuove complex is one of the results of this season of great public investments in the housing sector, built in the '70s in the North-Eastern periphery of Rome and remained largely unfinished. Designed under the coordination of Passarelli, today it is characterised by a diffuse sense of neglect and isolation. It concludes a sequence of public housing neighbourhood, developed in the 1920s (Valmelaina), 1950s (Tufello) and the 1990s (Valmelaina Nuova), defining a territory where multiple actions of social, historical and architectural valorisation coexist. Considering this context, therefore, Vigne Nuove allows to reflect on complex urban interconnections, far beyond individual buildings. The complex is registered in the "Census of Italian architecture from 1945 un to now" promoted by the Ministry of Culture becoming one of the symbols of the Italian Modernism.

Drawing on the first results of two European-funded projects that investigate, through different lenses, the role of heritage (making) in urban-mental health, this contribution reflects on how Vigne Nuove legacy can be transformed and valued while orienting the

city transition towards new sustainable and equitable lifestyles. Methodologically, it combines action-research, interviews and archival research to explore preventative trajectories of development, updating those socio-cultural and healthy values originally underneath the 20th Century city design.

**Giovanni Caudo** is full Professor in Urban Planning at Roma Tre University (Rome, IT), department of architecture. His main research activities concern the contemporary urban condition, affordable housing, and research on urban contexts in the process of transformation and reuse of heritage.

**Federica Fava** is Assistant professor at Roma Tre University (Rome, IT) department of architecture. Her research focuses on urban heritage regeneration through projects based on cultural, participative and innovative practices, paying particular attention to the role of time-based approaches in the city transition toward healthy and resilient scenarios.

# How do the social interactions of the inhabitants of Georgian cities and their practices of caring for the urban space depend on the different types of urban morphology?

*Snezhana Grozovskaya, Israel*

I compare four types of morphology in Georgian cities, the social interactions of their inhabitants, and their practices of caring for the urban space. The morphotypes are the historic blocks in the centre of Tbilisi with pre-revolutionary and early Soviet buildings; the districts with early low-rise Stalinist buildings in Rustavi; the late Soviet microdistricts in Tbilisi; and the modern district with Stalinist architecture and new mid-rise buildings („Vake“ in Tbilisi).

Why do residents in historic blocks interact more, form communities more intensely, and care for spaces more, while they do less in microdistricts and modern neighbourhoods? Why do local practices persist or disappear? I apply the frame theory, the feminist care theory, and the urban village concept. This research is based on interviews with experts and residents of Tbilisi, as well as participant observation and spatial analysis of morphology. I also use literary sources and memories.

The key features of the morphology facilitate or hinder social interaction between residents and their care for each other and the space. These features are the number of floors of the building, the historical boundaries of the yard, the size of the yard, architectural elements, the number of residents, and the existence of old-timers. Neighbours in the historic blocks are like family members and they have a strong sense of belonging to each other and to the neighbourhood. They support each other, communicate and interact daily, and share practices for caring for their houses and yards. These practices gradually disappeared with the advent of development, tourism, and gentrification, the loss of some of the parameters of the morphotype, and the displacement of the inhabitants.

In the Vake district, new, expensive housing has overtaken the old, prestigious Stalinist architecture built for the Soviet intelligentsia. There is a lack of communication and people live their own lives in their apartments or by visiting expensive shops and restaurants. In Soviet microdistricts, people communicate with each other, but not as intensively as in the historic city center, because of the morphotype. Their caring practices are also less visible. Districts with early low-rise Stalinist buildings have the characteristics of both historic blocks and microdistricts.

**Snezhana Grozovskaya** is an architect and urban researcher in the field of heritage studies and urban anthropology. She has a BA and MA in Urban Design (Samara State Technical University, Russia)

# Challenges, Practices, and Future



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Session 3

## Heritage policies and urban heritage conservation in Vienna. Adapting housing heritage of the early 20th century

Cristian Abrihan, Wiesbaden

Focusing on two examples for housing concepts and built settlements of the early 1900s in Vienna the contribution aims to discuss the value of documenting certain political decisions concerning housing that have shaped the way we live today. In addition, it addresses questions on how we want to live, what are current expectations in housing and how do they fit into the discussion on heritage conservation, transformation, and heritage policies.

The settlement Eden in Vienna's 14th district was built in 1921 as a self-built settlement that received an early form of housing subsidy program. <sup>1</sup> The layouts and architectural designs were simple and inexpensive and the typical building type consisted of a residential building, a front garden, and self-sufficient gardens in the back. The second example is a residential building in Vienna's 13th district that was built in 1930 by Theiss & Jaksch architects and was one of the first buildings to receive the funding according to Vienna's housing promotion act of 1929. <sup>2</sup> It's a well-preserved example of an early terraced single-family home with characteristics of the New Building style.

Both examples serve as documentation for the use and way of life of their time and pose important questions on contemporary living such as how much space do we actually need or how to use our resources efficiently. They also invite us to discuss the ambivalence between expectations of actual users and actors involved, monumental value and heritage policies. Moreover the future of this sites as well as the need for further development of integrated heritage management on different scales from urban conservation (e.g. Vienna's "Schutzzonen") to built heritage preservation will be discussed.

<sup>1</sup> Klaus Novy, Wolfgang Förster, Einfach Bauen. Genossenschaftliche Selbsthilfe nach der Jahrhundertwende. Zur Rekonstruktion der Wiener Siedlerbewegung, Wien 1991, p. 134-135.

<sup>2</sup> Dehio-Handbuch, Die Kunstdenkmäler Österreichs, Wien X. bis XIX. und XXI. Bis XXIII. Bezirk, Wien 1996, p. 245.

**Cristian Abrihan** is Professor for Sustainable Heritage Development and leads the course *Baukulturerbe. Bauen mit Bestand* at the RheinMain University of Applied Sciences in Wiesbaden since 2017. He works with his Vienna based office *Büro für Baukulturerbe* in the field of built heritage and urban heritage conservation. Architect Prof. Dr. Cristian Abrihan has expertise in monument preservation, management of complex planning processes and management of large-scale UNESCO World Heritage sites, as well as expertise in protected areas.



## **A sustainable Housing for the 21st century in Lisbon: when the social comes together with architecture to empower heritage values**

*Ana Tostões, Lisbon*

Telheiras Sul (1974) is a paradigmatic example of the Portuguese State's response to the housing shortage that was acknowledged in Lisbon bringing up arguments of environmentalism and identity that were beginning to emerge in the late 60s.

Following a former garden city genesis and taking in account as well the remaining old village settlement, the Plan, addressing hygiene, ecological and social issues, exemplifies the era for rethinking the modern city. Contrary to Le Corbusier's Plan Voisin, architects and city councils embarked on a marriage between standardized modern mass housing and the contextual specificities of the existing urban fabric.

It recovers the idea of the street as a channel space of the urban fabric creating a permeable network of pedestrian paths interconnected by green spaces facilitating mobility, the housing organized in residential block cells. The "spatial notation system" considered volumetric, spatial and use intentions defined for all buildings. The idea of creating an image of the city respected not only the form and expression of the buildings, but also their relationship with the public space, with the intention of introducing landscape meaning. Housing, commerce, and equipment promote a harmonious relationship between construction and public space, with an approach centered on human needs, which has been promoted by its Community Center and Residents' Association (ARTE).

The aim is to analyze how to conserve and adapt this settlement while safeguarding the quality-of-life level considering that housing implied not only „the dwellings“, but everything else involved with human life in an urban context. The participation and involvement of the neighbours addressing conservation through activism actions will be explored considering that 85% of residents are satisfied or very satisfied with the neighbourhood.

The argument is that the development of a strong local identity and a resilient community can be promoted through the balanced articulation between architecture, urban policies, and residents' participation. And that this modus operandi is the key for the successful European housing experiences becoming recognized and protected, as in this case it was recently integrated in Lisbon's Heritage Protection Charter.

**Ana Tostões** PhD is an architect, architecture critic and historian. She is a full Professor at Técnico - University of Lisbon, and leader of the Heritage research line of CiTUA and Invited professor at University of Tokyo, Universidad de Navarra and FAUP. She is President of Docomomo International and editor-in-chief of the Docomomo Journal (2010-2021) within 3 no. dedicated to housing question.



# Ownership, Tenure, and Appropriation of Heritage



**Session 4**

# Comparative Analysis of Socioeconomic Transformations in Affordable Housing Projects: A Case Study of Koşuyolu and Selamsız in Istanbul

*Hande Tunç, Istanbul*

Following the social and economic transformations in the aftermath of World War II, rapid and economical housing production became a significant challenge for the growing population of Istanbul in the 1950s. Within this context, the initial examples of municipal efforts to construct affordable housing emerged in the neighborhoods of Koşuyolu and Selamsız, which are located in two different districts yet closely proximate to each other within Istanbul. Constructed during the 1950s with similar aims and corresponding plan schemes, these affordable housing settlements in both areas share resemblances in their design frameworks, plan layouts, building sizes, and mass characteristics. However, the transformation of mass housing projects in both neighborhoods progresses divergently over time, exhibiting distinct trajectories. While experiencing changes in land use around neighborhoods and owners' demographics over time, functional and commercial differentiations lead to alterations in spatial arrangements, settlement character, and building usage patterns. Nonetheless, the scale, scope, and demographic ownership of similar changes between the two areas differ significantly, delineated by the socio-economic class to which the inhabitants belong. Selamsız, to a certain extent, continues to preserve its original character, whereas the situation in Koşuyolu progresses along a markedly different trajectory due to changes in the needs of users and residents' socio-economic characteristics of the surrounding settlement. In this context, the study endeavors to examine comparatively the transformation engendered by socio-cultural changes in 20th-century residences, focusing on notions of user and resident identity, using these two examples as a basis. It seeks to explore, from a class perspective, how economic and societal dynamics can translate into advantageous or disadvantageous situations regarding the awareness and preservation of modern housing heritage, utilizing two closely situated and similar examples.

**Hande Tunç** received her B. Arch in Architecture from Istanbul Technical University, Faculty of Architecture (2011-2016) and her MSc. Degree in Architectural History program of Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University (2017-2020). She is currently a Ph.D. student in Building Design Theory and Methodology at Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University, and works as a Research Assistant at Özyeğin University, Istanbul. Major research interests include urban history, architectural utopias, ideology and urbanism in Turkey.

## The Red Tower: The Centre of Speculation

Natalie Heger/Ruth Schlögl, Frankfurt

The "Schelmengraben housing estate" was planned between 1961 and 1971 by the well-known architect Ernst May (1886-1970). Today, the majority of the approximately 2,500 residential units are owned by GWH Wohnbau-gesellschaft. In the middle of the estate is the commercial centre of the estate, which is marked by a high-rise residential building, the „Red Tower Block“, an early work by architect Udo Nieper, which is architecturally high-lighted with its wine-red cladding made of fiber cement panels and rounded corner elements. This central row of stores, which a few years ago was home to a range of everyday services, from a pharmacy and post office to local shops and restaurants, is now largely vacant following sale after sale in recent years. The former and current owner(s) cannot be contacted by the tenants, building defects are not rectified, rents continue to rise at the same time and vandalism and decay are taking their course in the heart of the "Schelmengraben estate" - an important meeting place and supply point for local residents. Most recently, the neighbourhood office has also moved out of the row of stores and has been given new -dry - premises in the new district centre.

Against the backdrop of speculation, decay and helplessness on the part of those involved, the main question today is: why was the historically significant building, which is characterized by a special design quality, not placed under monument protection? What could a future monument protection achieve for the preservation and restoration of the building complex in the very centre of "Schelmengraben"?

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**Natalie Heger** is an architect, professor of urban planning and design at Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences and co-founder of the interdisciplinary cooperative uLab, Studio for City and Spatial Processes. She studied architecture in Berlin and Barcelona, worked as a stage and costume designer, worked in various architectural offices, taught and researched at the University of Kassel, where she completed her doctorate on the planning and conceptual history of the Olympic Village in Munich. Currently she is working together with Ruth Schlögl on the research project „Quality of life in large housing estates“, which deals with the requirements and the measurability of quality of life in large housing estates.

**Ruth Schlögl** studied art history and communication sciences. After working for various architectural firms and sporting events, she spent more than ten years working for an environmental protection organization. Since 2019, Ruth Schlögl has been working at the Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences at the Post-War Modernism Research Lab. Here, in addition to her work for the Frankfurt Research Institute FFin, she is dedicated to researching post-war modernist housing estates in the Frankfurt Rhine-Main region.

## **Warsaw Housing Cooperative. Heritage of radical utopia in a neoliberal city**

*Weronika Parfianowicz, Warsaw*

Warsaw Housing Cooperative was established in 1921 as a radical socio-political project, not without similarities to Red Vienna, although on a much smaller scale. Its founders represented a wide array of progressive activists from anarchists to socialists to communists; from unionists to propagators of cooperativism. During the interwar period they managed to build two housing estates (Żoliborz, Rakowiec), not only providing housing for the working class, but also realizing ambitious cultural and political programs. They established secular educational institutions with progressive teaching programs; supported various workers and food cooperatives; built common infrastructure: gardens, laundries and libraries; established cultural institutions (cinema, theater, art clubs); The Warsaw Housing Cooperative was collaborating with some of the most prominent avant-garde architects who provided it with good quality functionalist buildings. The outbreak of the war interrupted further development of the whole project and although the Cooperative resumed its activity after war and built new housing estates, which are appreciated till today for their functionality and greeneries, it never returned to the ambitious social program of the interwar period.

Today, we're witnessing the process of privatization and commodification of this heritage. Warsaw Housing Cooperative still exists, but within the paradigm of private ownership, dominating in Poland since 1989, the increasing number of its members or their heirs privatize apartments, withdrawing them from Cooperative's housing stock. They become the object of trade and speculation. Most of them are now not affordable for the social groups they were designed for.

In my presentation I'll reconstruct some of the most original features of interwar Warsaw Housing Cooperative and I'll reflect on how we can draw inspiration from its history in order to challenge the currently prevailing neoliberal housing policies and how we can save its unique material infrastructure and surroundings for the benefit of local communities and city inhabitants.

**Weronika Parfianowicz**, PhD is Assistant Professor at Institute of Polish Culture, University of Warsaw. Her research interests involve housing policies and dwelling culture, the history of modern Czech culture and Central European urban culture, as well as the idea of degrowth and ecosocialism..



**Participation,  
Diversity,  
and Sense of  
Belonging**

**Session 5**

## Heritage management through condominiums: participation and belonging in Gründerzeit Budapest

*Hanna Szemző, Budapest*

The give-away privatisation of the late XXth century generated a clearly novel phenomenon for the historic housing stock in Budapest: after decades of neglect and slow depletion a new, thoroughly democratic, but underfinanced and dysfunctional system of building maintenance was created. It entrusted the refurbishment of a significant share of Budapest's built heritage – for the most part not listed but significant in its mass - to a diverse group of typically low-income owners and their newly elected local governments. Relying mostly on the in-built participative process of the condominium level decision-making mechanisms as well as on the varied municipal support schemes and urban development plans, the emerging refurbishment processes have created trajectories where the different neighbourhoods and population segments fared differently. The processes fuelled vehement political debates in which the concepts of heritage, identity and belonging became both objectives and tools. Relying on semi-structured interviews, desktop research and media analysis, and focusing on individual cases in the 7th and 8th district – part of the Gründerzeit city districts on the Pest side – the paper will seek to highlight how condominium level decision making can become a key component of local participative heritage maintenance especially in the backdrop of a dismantled national conservation system.

**Hanna Szemző** (PhD in History, Master's degree in Sociology and History) has been working for Metropolitan Research Institute for more than 15 years. She has extensive experience in research and consultancy in the fields of urban development, social inclusion, energy efficiency, demography, welfare, and governance analysis. She has participated in various 5th, 6th and 7th Framework Programmes of the European Union, prepared strategic development concepts for local governments, and has provided consultancy for Habitat for Humanity International in Armenia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Currently she coordinates the EU financed HomeLab project which connects employment and housing provision in five pilot sites in the Visegrad four countries.



## The ernst-may-gesellschaft and the model house of the Neues Frankfurt

*Christina Treutlein/Astrid Wuttke, Frankfurt*

In 1925, Ernst May was appointed to Frankfurt by Ludwig Landmann to work on the large-scale housing and settlement programme „Neues Frankfurt“ as the responsible head of department. In just five years, a large number of diverse projects were realised that quickly went beyond just construction projects. Ernst May and all the other players found an environment in Frankfurt that enabled them to realise their completely new approaches, ideas and plans in a far-reaching and consistent manner. The creation of such an environment with broad support within the city's society is to the credit of Ludwig Landmann, who was only in office from 1924 onwards and was determined and courageous enough to try something new in difficult economic times.

In this tradition, interested Frankfurters founded the ernst-may-gesellschaft in 2003. Its aim is to document and preserve the Neues Frankfurt in accordance with its international standing and to contribute to current debates on architecture and urban planning. With the ernst-may-haus as a model house of the Neues Frankfurt, the non-profit organisation maintains a single-family terraced house in the Römerstadt housing estate that has been restored in line with its listed status. Here, as well as on an allotment plot with a faithfully restored arbour (the Gartenlaube), the Neues Frankfurt of the 1920s remains alive and tangible.

Many of the voluntary or part-time supervisors, who provide regular opening hours and expert guidance for visitors, are residents of the neighbourhood who identify strongly with their community and proudly present „their“ may-haus to interested visitors. Over the years, the association has succeeded in building up a structure that is anchored at a very high scientific level on the one hand, and on the other hand involves interested people with very different personal backgrounds in the work of the association and museum in a very low-threshold manner. Some of them are introduced in short portraits, thus drawing a diverse picture of the Neues Frankfurt that is still very much alive here today.

**Christina Treutlein** is the managing director of the Ernst May Society, an organisation dedicated to the research and dissemination of the legacy of the New Frankfurt and the architectural and urban history of the 20th century. She is an art historian and wrote a dissertation on the architect Carl-Hermann Rudloff in 2020. She has published several important works, including A „Bauhaus“ for Frankfurt am Main? Martin Elsaesser's Plans for a School of Applied Arts 1926/27 and Utopias of New Frankfurt. Her research focuses on the architectural and urban history of Frankfurt in the 20th century.

## Rethinking approaches to residential heritage conservation in the face of urban shrinkage in a European context

*Elena Batunova, Aachen*

The 20th century, marked by intensive urbanization and urban growth, placed housing issues at the core of European national and local planning and policies. Residential areas were and still are the main contributors to cities' spatial expansion. A movement focusing on protecting built heritage emerged as a direct response to urban growth and its accompanying destruction. Over the last few decades, the heritage concept has evolved, constantly expanding its meaning and becoming more inclusive. However, urban growth is no longer the only reality; since the second half of the 20th century, many European cities have faced urban shrinkage, provoked by socio-demographic, economic, and political transformations.

This paper investigates the unexplored issue of residential heritage preservation in shrinking cities. On the one hand, shrinking cities are freed from development pressure and associated destruction. On the other hand, their policies and strategies to address urban shrinkage often include demolition programs in residential areas, most affected by population decline.

The analysis of existing heritage policies and policies addressing urban shrinkage demonstrates a tendency to exploit heritage in shrinking cities as a source for promoting growth through the development of cultural and tourist economies. Other issues in focus refer to heritage preservation under conditions of scarce financial and human resources. However, many aspects of the urban shrinkage-residential heritage relationship remain undiscovered: the changing socio-cultural and political meaning of heritage in depopulating and aging cities; the need for more flexibility and adaptability of residential areas to reflect urban shrinkage transformations; or the higher level of uncertainty and complexity in decision-making that must balance between preserving valuable heritage and demolishing structures that are unnecessary burdens.

The research contributes to the evolution of the complex puzzle of the heritage concept with a missing piece - the reality of urban shrinkage.

**Elena Batunova** is Doctor of Urban Planning, Design and Policy. She is researcher at RWTH Aachen University and Chair for Cultural Heritage and Planning.





# About Vienna



Panel Discussion

## The Prospect of Workers Housing Estates in Austria

*Sanela Pansinger/Petra Kickenweitz, Graz*

Based on the framework process of modernizing workers' housing estates<sup>1</sup>, follows 2021 the focus on workers' housing estates in the calls for proposals „Smart Cities - Lighthouses for Resilient Cities 2040“ by the Climate Energy Fund. In this context, around 9 research projects have been created in Austria, all of them deal with the diverse typology of workers' housing estates, sustainable refurbishment with citizen participation and resilient settlement development in different project phases and implementation depths. Many of these estates, originally built on the outskirts of localities, are now well developed in terms of infrastructure in core areas.

Nevertheless, due to their age, the substance of building and the missing of protection of monuments or locationscape<sup>2</sup>, they are acutely threatened by demolition or massive reshaping as a result of densification and the associated loss of identity for the neighborhood or district. In a first draft version of a position paper on the redevelopment of workers' housing estates, which was developed as part of a workshop at the Renowave Impactdays 2023, 2 key aspects for sustainable redevelopment were identified: Firstly, the participation of the population in decision-making processes and secondly, ensuring affordable housing for future generations by local authorities. Renovation can only be successful if it is based on a comprehensive needs analysis, a stocktaking, realistic cost calculations and an effective funding program.

The specific building typology of the workers' housing estates, which originally provided generous open spaces for self-sufficiency, illustrates the resilience of these neighborhoods over a long period of time and their added value for the residents. It is therefore important to consider these settlements. in conjunction with traditional building elements and to complement them with innovation and new technologies to ensure the accessibility and barrier-free access, which in turn enable social dynamics and functionality. A current demo project called smarteVERANDA (duration 2023-2026) is investigating this topic at the site of Pernegg and Liezen. The aim is to carefully increase density, improve the substance of building, add missing functions and thus preserve these lively neighborhoods for future generations.

**Sanela Pansinger** studied architecture and obtained a Ph.D. in urban planning and urban design. She expanded her previous practical experience, university teaching, and research at TU Graz, TU Wien, and Joanneum Research – LIFE in 2020 by founding adasca - Office for Urban Planning and Urban Research. In 2023, she received the Seal of Excellence from the European Commission for research. Since 2023, she has been a authorized locationscape expert in Styria.

**Petra Kickenweitz** is an architect, urban planner, freelance curator, architecture journalist and communicator with pedagogical training. Authorized locationscape expert in Styria (since 2019) and external lecturer at TU Graz, Institute of Building Physics, Services and Construction (since 2018). Teaching Fellow and Research Associate at the TU Graz Institute of Construction and Design Principles (2014-19) and research assistant at the FH Graz, Institute of Architecture and Management (2019-20).

## The forgotten Viennese housing experiment of „Alte-Leute-Siedlungen“

*Christina Schraml, Vienna*

In the 1950s, Vienna ventured a social housing experiment. The City built bungalows in the green areas of its municipal buildings. The micro-apartments exclusively for the elderly were intended to solve the problems of an ageing society during the rampant housing shortage of the post-war period. They promoted a self-determined, almost barrier-free life embedded in the social fabric of the “Gemeindebau”. The homes varied in their implementation, but had one essential thing in common – their architecture made strong reference to the outside space. The open spaces were generously equipped – residents interacted with others in the social green. The architecture and the composition of the open spaces – often a courtyard within a courtyard – created a sense of neighborhood. The housing experiment soon became an international showcase model for housing the elderly. However, today it has been forgotten. The objects no longer perform their original purpose – due to poor building substance, many have been renovated and their apartments adapted and rented elsewhere, while others are falling into disrepair. Only a few are actually listed buildings as part of the larger residential complexes. The original ideas associated with the concept have disappeared from the city's memory. Yet, it was the social components that made the housing experiment unique and thus worthy of protection in the sense of intangible housing heritage. In fact, many aspects of the forgotten housing model are more relevant than ever. The lockdowns during the coronavirus pandemic showed us how essential open spaces and a sense of belonging to a neighborhood are, especially for older people and those with limited mobility. Vienna is facing similar challenges to those of 70 years ago. Once again, the progressive ageing of the population will have an impact on our society and urban life. The contribution aims towards the recognition of the “Alte-Leute-Siedlungen” as an important further development of social housing in post-war Vienna. It provides insights into the housing model and reflects on what lost knowledge is worth to be reinvented and made productive to meet some of today's housing challenges.

**Christina Schraml** is a Vienna-based urbanist whose interdisciplinary practice is located at the interface of urbanism and artistic strategies. Since 2012 she has been teaching and researching as a senior scientist at the Department of Social Design at the University of Applied Arts Vienna with a focus on public space, urban culture, housing utopias and alternative forms of coexistence.

[www.socialdesign.ac.at](http://www.socialdesign.ac.at)

## The Wiener Cottage Association: a civil society initiative

Wolfgang H. Gräsel, Vienna

In 1872, the Wiener Cottage Association was founded in Vienna with the aim of creating healthy living environments in green spaces. This marked the beginning of one of Europe's first housing reform projects.

Today, the Cottage district is not only a unique area of historical and cultural value but also significantly contributes to the city's healthy climate with its avenues and green spaces. Therefore, it is not surprising that real estate investors have a keen interest in realizing luxury residential projects, which could significantly disrupt the character of this neighborhood - be it through the number of floors, roof forms, or the materials used.

It was therefore necessary to find a way to engage with developers and their planners as early as possible, ideally before the start of planning, and to develop binding requirements for new construction, additions, and renovations in the Cottage district. This led to the idea of a design catalog in which design criteria were and continue to be developed based on the design features of the historical inventory. These serve as guidelines for the planning of such new constructions, additions, and renovations, with regard to ensemble protection. This idea was positively received by both the municipal politics and the relevant municipal departments, and the Wiener Cottage Association commissioned the creation of such a design catalog under university expert guidance.

These design criteria are now intended to be legally enshrined, namely: In the Building Regulations for Vienna and In the revision of the zoning plan for the Cottage district.

In this way, in an exemplary collaboration between administration and civil society initiative, the preservation as well as the alteration of this historically and culturally valuable urban district in line with ensemble protection could be managed.

**Wolfgang Gräsel** is a board member of the renowned *Wiener Cottage Verein*, a long-established institution dedicated to the preservation and maintenance of Vienna's distinctive Cottage District. With a technical background as a graduate engineer, he brings extensive expertise in construction and engineering to his role. His commitment focuses on the sustainable development and preservation of this historic neighbourhood, emphasising both community values and architectural heritage.



# Poster Presentation



## **A brand-new urban settlement between 1920s and 1930s: the companytown of Dalmine**

*Giulio Mirabella Roberti/Monica Resmini, Bergamo*

The company-town raised around the steel production plant of Dalmine is a good example of a new settlement expressly addressed to host the company's workers. Both white and blue collar workers were housed, but in two well separated quarters. The city centre was just on the middle of the two, with common facilities such as kindergarten and primary school, church, municipality, shop, bakery and also recreative services; the main square laying in front of the company management headquarters. All the residential quarters, but also almost all of the public buildings, were designed by the same architect Giovanni Greppi, in the years ranging from 1922 until 1942, showing an evolution in the compositional character from a sort of residual eclectic elements to a more clean rationalist design.

In the years '60 the property of the houses passed from a centralized management owned by the Company to the direct property of inhabitants, opening to a wide range of new problems of maintenance and conservation. The houses were in the most part multi-family, from two to four families, so the property become fragmented also in the same building. The heritage value of the settlements become relevant only in the last 20 years, and a lot of little changes have already been made to adapt the houses to the new performances required by inhabitants, windows, doors, but also roof tiles and so on. Lacking a specific protection regulation, all these transformations are continuing, producing a progressive change of identity of the town.

**Giulio Mirabella Roberti**, Università degli studi di Bergamo, Dipartimento di Ingegneria e Scienze Applicate PhD in Structural Engineering, Master Degree in Structural Engineering and in Architecture at Politecnico of Milan. Full Professor of Restoration since 2017 at the University of Bergamo, he was Associate Professor since 1998 in the Luav University of Venice. Former director of the Bachelor and Master programs in Building Engineering (2013-2018), he is also member of the board of PhD program in History and Conservation of Architecture at the Politecnico di Milano.

**Monica Resmini**, Università degli studi di Bergamo, Dipartimento di Ingegneria e Scienze Applicate Master degree in Architecture at Politecnico di Milano, PhD in History of Architecture at Sapienza University of Rome, Researcher in "History of architectural techniques". Topics of study include architectural design, building materials and techniques in the modern and contemporary ages, and architectural history with special reference to the Lombard context between the 16th-17th and 20th centuries.

# The socialist housing heritage in post-socialist Europe: conflicts of value for the recognition of the ordinary heritage of the 20th century in Iași and Timișoara, Romania

*Amandine Dargaud, Lyon/Timișoara*

Through the cases of Timișoara and Iași in Romania, my research is focusing on the representations, perceptions and uses of the legacies of the socialist period, especially the ordinary ones such as large housing estates. Nowadays, this heritage faces many challenges, particularly in terms of energy efficiency, and needs to be adapted, which often leads to their architectural denaturing. In fact, renovation initiatives in Romania are often carried out on a case-by-case basis, at the whim of individual private owners, without any coherence while urbanistic and protection laws are not very strict or even non-existent. In response, experts, particularly architects, are mobilizing to signify and recognize the architectural and urbanistic values of socialist housing. This dynamic can be observed through public awareness-raising campaigns but also, at the institutional level, by lobbying for the inclusion of socialist buildings on the list of historic monuments, in the context of the slow recognition of 20th century heritage in Romania. Through my fieldwork in Iași and Timișoara, I have also identified some tourism initiatives aimed at enhancing the value of the built heritage of the communist period, in particular for its historical value as a testimony to the former communist regime and its ideology. But these initiatives have little resonance with local residents. For them, socialist housing has first of all a functional value, and possibly a sentimental attachment, as the place where they live. Street surveys and interviews have shown me how difficult it is for Romanians to appreciate this heritage. For them, it still represents the traces of the bygone communist regime whose memory is still vivid and, above all, difficult. Through the case of Romania's socialist housing heritage, I wish to discuss the value conflicts between experts, tourists and ordinary inhabitants, in the context of an ongoing heritagization process.

**Amandine Dargaud** is a PhD student in Geography, co-supervised by Lydia Coudroy de Lille (University of Lyon 2, UMR 5600 EVS, France) and Nicolae Popa (West University of Timișoara, CDR-START, Romania). Recently, she communicated at three scientific events in Romania, Georgia and France.

# The doings of the post-Yugoslav Homo Faber: manifesto of care, curated decay, a policy or none of the above?

Sonja Lakić, Paris

In "On Altering Architecture", Fred Scott writes:

"All buildings, once handed over by the builders to the client, have three possible fates, namely to remain unchanged, to be altered or to be demolished." (Scott, 2008, p.1)

I here portray the fate hence the post-Yugoslav afterlives of the so-called "protective flat" (Vezilić-Strmo et al., 2013), i.e. "a shelter" designed for no one in particular, yet, however, "in the case of emergency" of service to anyone (Vezilić-Strmo et al., 2013, p. 349), which, after the collapse of former Yugoslavia, has been severely altered. I do so by summing up all of my thus-far research and giving voice to a post-Yugoslav Homo Faber – a homeowner hence former tenant who contested original design, becoming the mastermind behind the post-Yugoslav dwelling practice and new residential heritage. Through series of anecdotes and biographies, photographs, drawings and sketches, ideally in alphabetical order, I contemplate authorship and new typologies; social aspects of appropriation/alteration; semantics of materials; personal feelings as political act; ethics and/of care; new (architectural) history in the making. Are the doings of the post-Yugoslav Homo Faber a proof of Yugoslav modernist architecture being open and embracing the other mind, as Akcan (2008) suggests? Is illegally glazed balcony an example of urban decay or new kind of heritage? How to employ one's emotions to build a policy to preserve, protect and/or adapt settlements to whatever future holds?

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**Sonja Lakić** is an internationally trained architect, urbanist, curator and researcher who holds a PhD in Urban Studies. She employs architecture, and, most of all, lived forms of buildings as an excuse to start a conversation on the everydayness of contemporary cities. Sonja operates across different disciplines and scales, doing story-telling residing, notion of home(making), do-it-yourself culture and informality in post-conflict societies.

# First Mass-Housing Project of a new Republic as a modern Heritage Conservation Problem: Saraçoğlu Neighborhood

*Azize Elif Yabacı, Ankara*

Ankara was chosen as the center of the War of Independence between 1919 and 1922 by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and his friends, and following the victory, the city was declared the capital city of the New Republic. Zeynep Kezer evaluates this choice by saying: "Ankara's insignificant past has allowed Republican modernizers to perceive and describe it as a tabula rasa on which to put their big dreams into practice".

With the change of the capital city, all the administrative offices and state institutions that had been in Istanbul were moved to Ankara, which brought together the rapid and immense migration of the population. Saraçoğlu Neighborhood was the first mass-housing project of the republic designed as a civil servant settlement to respond to the lack of housing stock of the city. The neighborhood was constructed between 1944-1946 and designed by Paul Bontaz, a German architect who came to Turkey and practiced as an architect and educator between 1943 and 1954.

Saraçoğlu settlement had gone through many challenges and social and physical changes in relation to varying economic and political approaches. Although it was listed as 1st Degree Urban Protected Area in 1979 and the trees and planting of the settlement were listed and taken under protection in 1993, the government decided to sell the area in 1994, which could not be realized. Following that, in 2013, the government declared the decision to demolition of the neighborhood. People were forced to leave their houses, and the whole settlement was abandoned and left to decay. In the last stage of the process, a conservation plan was prepared, which was canceled by the court due to the objection of chambers, and a revitalization project is in progress.

In this paper, the architectural and urban features of a mass-housing project of the new Turkish Republic will be presented together with the developments of the area in time. Specifically, the changing attitudes toward this significant witness of the republic after the 1990s, interventions, demolishment order, and other significant decisions will be discussed to understand the varying and conflicting values of different stakeholders on this listed heritage site. Finally, the final revitalization project will be presented and discussed in light of previous developments.

**A. Elif Yabacı** graduated from the METU Department of Architecture in 2009. She received her master's degree from the METU Restoration program in 2012 and her Ph.D. degree from the METU Cultural Heritage Conservation program in 2018. Since 2018, she has been working as an Assistant Professor at TEDU Department of Architecture. Her research interests include the preservation of modern heritage and modern campuses.

# Theoretical Discussion in Czechoslovakia on the Quality of Housing in the 1950s and 1960s

*Lenka Popelová, Prague*

The theoretical discussion about the quality of housing from the 1950s and 1960s reflected originally both: the practical aspects of the time when it was necessary to build apartments after the 2nd world war, but also the effort to theorize the problem. Although these efforts were based on socialist views on the form of a new society and housing, they often went beyond this binding framework.

We see this especially in many unrealized architectural competitions projects that aimed to improve the quality of individual and massive housing (regarding typology, construction systems and urban settings). The aim was to design more comfortable, high-quality and often experimental housing.

These competitions often brought unconventional solutions, and also brought the opportunity to discuss new solutions more freely. It was assumed that „in this way we will be able to improve the current situation of the standardization and construction-technological monopoly, the negative effects of which are sufficiently known and criticized“. The competition designs thus represented the most progressive solutions comparable to work in the West.

Today they represent more the conceptual heritage value, which can help to perceive and understand the legacy of socialist housing estates in a more creative, conceiving and realistic way as part of a broader historical building layer that is still burdened with negativism, prejudice and social stigma.

**Lenka Popelová** is an Architect and historian of architecture. Research: Research Centre for Industrial Heritage CTU (2003-2006), CTU in Prague, Faculty of Civil Engineering (2006-present). The area of research is the history and theory of 20th century architecture and industrial heritage. A member of the Czech ICOMOS. From 2023 she leads the Ministry of Culture of the CZ project An active rescue of immovable industrial heritage in the form of a new use (NAKI III). A chair of the Ph.D. programme of the Industrial heritage at CTU.

## Hôtel Wolfers: Proposal for an Exhibition Space

*Ursula Pokorny, Düsseldorf*

The following paper offers a close reading on “Hôtel Wolfers,” a house by architect Henry van de Velde in Brussels from 1930, and its inhabitant art collector Herman Daled. The paper traces the building’s architectural history and Daled’s engagement with contemporary art to carry forward a proposal of turning this house into an exhibition space. Hôtel Wolfers is a valuable example of early modernist architecture. It was designated as a nationally listed building in 1983, while Daled lived in the house. This carries particular importance in the aftermath of the aggressive urban development in Brussels from the 1960s on. Thanks to Daled’s careful restoration, Hôtel Wolfers is in good condition today. However, since he died in 2020, the house has been vacant. It would be challenging for a private person to maintain the building historically accurately, considering that it does not comply with contemporary living standards. Daled himself developed a particular attitude of living in Hôtel Wolfers. Personal comfort was secondary to him. He was primarily concerned with an intellectual engagement with the surrounding architecture. In this regard, the paper describes van de Velde’s contribution to the development of the modern exhibition space and reflects Daled’s involvement in conceptual art from 1966 on. He maintained close relationships with artists like Marcel Broodthaers, who challenged conventional institutional frameworks of producing and presenting art. Institutionalizing Hôtel Wolfers poses the central question of how the daily movements of a home can resonate in a house turned “museum.” This exhibition space should not aim to memorialize van de Velde’s architecture or Daled’s collection but to generate critical discourse by pointing out their parallel histories. Hôtel Wolfers should champion research on the sensible renovation of historic buildings and provide a platform for small-scale architectural heritage initiatives across Europe, such as the foundation of painter Yannis Tsarouchis in Athens or the house of Oskar and Zofia Hansen in Szumin, Poland.

**Ursula Pokorny** is an assistant curator at Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen in Düsseldorf. Her research focuses on architectural heritage and artists’ estates. She has previously worked for the Museum of Modern Art in New York, Kunsthalle Basel, and Galerie Martin Janda in Vienna. Ursula holds degrees from the Center for Curatorial Studies at Bard College, New York and the University of Applied Arts, Vienna.

# Restore, Reconstruct, Reinvent. Factors shaping worker's housing conservation practices in Upper Silesia

*Dominika Zysk, Warsaw*

The turn of 19th and 20th centuries saw a birth of garden city movement, proving very seminal in the field of architecture and urban studies even today. Ebenezer Howard could see his original idea quickly implemented across the world as early as 1900s. Germany was one of the European countries in which the idea of garden city took root and gained a widespread following among experts and laymen alike.

Many of those housing projects were located in Upper Silesia, then a part of Germany, now constituting a separate voivodeship within Polish territory. The most prominent examples of those in the region are probably Nikiszowiec and Giszowiec company towns in today's Katowice. Built between 1907 and 1919, they serve both as housing estates with regular inhabitants and large-scale architectural monuments (and a peculiar kind of city mascots, too).

In my presentation I'm going to take a closer look at both original housing estates inspired by garden city movement in early 20th century and housing projects that strive to imitate in both form and building process the first "garden cities". The new generation of architects, especially from the Northern Europe, resort more keenly to traditional building materials and solutions as the surest way to provide sustainable housing, built to brave the raging climate change.

The presentation focus will remain on interplay between a adaptation forced by changing environmental conditions and conservation practices imposed by tradition. Moreover, gentrification and ever-present nostalgia on which the former feeds will also be considered as important factors in heritage conservation policies. Prototype housing projects, like those developed by young Silesian architect Aleksander Krajewski, will be analysed as one of "third way" examples, moulded by past and present.

**Dominika Zysk M.A.**, Alumna of University of Warsaw, currently unaffiliated independent scholar. Graduated with Master's degree with thesis on literature struggling with crisis of imagination and pressing social issues. In 2016-2017 completed a internship in "Autoportret" architecture quarterly, reinforcing a commitment to see architecture as a discipline belonging to humanities, not merely engineering.



# A History of Modern Japanese Collective Housing and the Need to Learn from the Succession of Collective Housing in Europe

*Toshio Otsuki, Tokyo*

The history of Japan's housing complexes spans around 100 years. While traditional row houses have long existed, multi-family residential complexes only emerged around 1900, initially as two-story wooden apartments for low-income families in urban areas. Public housing projects began in 1911, influenced by the rapid urbanization that followed Japan's industrial revolution. In 1916, the first reinforced concrete (RC) apartment complex was built for coal miners, marking a shift toward more durable multi-family housing.

The 1923 Great Kanto Earthquake accelerated apartment construction, and the government foundation Dojunkai built 16 pioneering RC apartments in Tokyo, sparking an apartment boom. RC construction expanded in the private sector until WWII, when it ceased, though some wooden buildings were constructed for military use. Postwar, RC apartments resumed with Tokyo's Takanawa Apartments in 1947, followed by company housing. In 1955, the Japan Housing Corporation began building RC complexes nationwide for middle-income earners, driving Japan's apartment boom. By the 1960s through the 1990s, new towns across Japan featured extensive public and private complexes, with apartments reaching 40% of the housing stock.

Today, preservation efforts for early RC apartments are growing. Ashiya City designated a 1953 RC public housing complex as a National Tangible Cultural Property, while the Urban Renaissance Agency recognized unique RC buildings like the 1932 Star House. In 2023, a housing complex museum was established, featuring interior elements from the demolished Dojunkai Apartments. Japan is increasingly focused on preserving postwar RC housing from the 1940s and 1950s, recognizing these buildings as valuable cultural assets. This trend aligns Japan with Europe, where collective housing has a deeper history of cultural preservation—a model Japan is now looking to follow.

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Otsuki's work focuses on architectural design, particularly in the areas of disaster recovery and housing for the elderly, and he has received several awards, including from the Architectural Institute of Japan. His projects include public housing for disaster-stricken regions and specialised housing for the elderly. Otsuki has published extensively on urban planning and ageing societies, and has contributed to projects aimed at promoting community engagement and preventing social isolation.





## Conference

The conference focusses on housing concepts and built settlements of the 20th century, which often explicitly addressed hygienical, ecological, communal, and social issues and necessities. We ask how these heritage values can be conserved for the sake of sustainable futures. Forms of use, social interaction, and participation might contribute to the care and careful adaptation of such sites, but also create conflicts. Various actors—from business, politics, conservation, and civil society—define, appropriate, and manage this housing heritage and need to be involved. The conference also examines housing and climate policies, development pressure, and vacancy as powerful contexts.

We aim for an exchange of theories, reflections, and approaches in practice within the European context of conservation and planning; and specifically address those settlements that have gained listed status due to their artistic and architectural values, their planning ideas and urban design, and their social concepts. How do different actors value and manage these settlements today?

