
DIGITAL ARCHIVE OF QUEENSLAND ARCHITECTURE & HOT MODERNISM

“Architectural Practice in Postwar Queensland (1945-75)” was a large research project funded by the Australian Research Council under the Linkage Project grant scheme. The research was conducted in the Centre for Architecture, Theory, History and Criticism (ATCH), at the School of Architecture, University of Queensland.

A thematic history that traces both the conflicts and the felicities that occurred as Modernism encountered a region with an already strongly developed cultural identity. Exploring the foundation and growth of modern architecture in post-war Queensland, this ARC-funded project has produced a book, an interactive online database, a major public exhibition, attended by more than 18,000 people, a film competition and a series of public forums. The impact of this work can be seen from its use as a major State Government resource that has led to the establishment of a special working party to explore and investigate innovative programs to conserve places of cultural heritage significance. The work was praised in the architectural press for building a broad public interest in Queensland Architecture and for the use of historic material to draw attention to contemporary themes such as suburban sprawl, density, alternative models of living and climatic design.

Research partners:

Outcomes and Related Publications:

Exhibition

Digital Archive
An interactive online database, the Digital Archive of Queensland Architecture (www.qldarch.net) collates all research material for the project into an interactive and multimedia research resource on Queensland architecture. Uniting tangible and intangible heritage, including drawings, photos and interviews, the archive allows the public to upload images of Queensland architecture, listen to architect’s interviews, build timelines and search journal articles. Integrated into the database are the development of a number of new tools which allow the user to interrogate the material in new and innovative ways, including relationships.

Book

Interviews
70 + oral history interviews and films with architects who trained or worked in the post-war period.

Team:
- Dr. Deborah van der Plaat
- Dr. Janina Gosseye
- Professor John Macarthur
- Dr. Andrew Wilson
Public Forums
an introduction of the project to the profession and general public (State Library of Queensland, November 8, 2012, 5.30-8pm)

Architectural Education in post-war Queensland (State Library of Queensland, March 5 2013)

Climate and the Queensland House (State Library of Queensland, November 7, 2013) and Visions for Brisbane (State Library of Queensland 27 August 2013).

Film Competition


Awards
John Herbert Memorial Award for the Most Outstanding Nomination, Hot Modernism: Exhibition, Digital Archive and Book, National Trust, Queensland, 2017.

Gold Heritage Award, Interpretation and Promotion, Hot Modernism: Exhibition, Digital Archive and Book, National Trust, Queensland, 2017.

Impact
#hotmodernism: https://twitter.com/hashtag/hotmodernism

Recent book review in Architecture Australia:

‘Hot modernism Cool resource’ was established http://www.uq.edu.au/research/impact/stories/hot-modernism-cool-resource/.