



Delft University of Technology

Approaches to Plastic Heritage

Pottgiesser, Uta; Quist, Wido

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EDITORIAL

Uta Pottgiesser & Wido Quist

Editors-in-chief

APPROACHES TO PLASTIC HERITAGE

The Docomomo Journal looks back to a long history and has started as a 'newsletter' in August 1989 to facilitate the communication among the young docomomo community. Since then, the responsibility for the journal has moved with the headquarters and each generation of the journal has developed its own characteristic and focus. Since 1993 the 'newsletter' evolved into a thematic journal, reflecting the archival and on-site research on Modern Movement materials, technologies and typologies executed by individual members and Specialist Committees. The journals 9-26 shed light on the conceptual and technological particularities of Modern Movement buildings and sites. During the 'Paris Period' the journals 27-41 created a unique overview about the diversity of Modern Movement around the world. Finally, when moving the headquarters to Barcelona and subsequently Lisbon the journal entered into a phase of broader theoretical reflection about the principles and foundations of Modern Movement displayed in the issues 41-65.

Settling the docomomo headquarters at TU Delft in the Netherlands in January 2022, we are entering a new cycle of our journal expressed on the one hand by turning the journal fully open access and on the other hand by introducing a strict peer-review process, that allows for further scientific indexation of the journal. Still, we wish and aim to maintain the strong attachment of the journal to both, the academic AND professional community. At the same time, the journal wants to tackle the challenges and dimensions related to preservation and conservation of the very different modern heritage in a world that is challenged by climate change, scarcity of global resources and social inequalities. To do so, the Docomomo Journal will maintain its two basic areas of research, discussion and stewardship: documentation and conservation. But it explicitly wants to foster the links between both often separated disciplines and create holistic and practical contributions to deal with the pressing demands to preserve on the one hand and to improve and renew our built environment on the other hand, in majority built in the second half of the 20th century.

This Docomomo Journal 66 on plastic is the result of collaboration between the Docomomo International Specialist Committees of Technology (ISC/T) and that of Interior Design (ISC/ID) bridging the disciplines from product to interior design and to architecture. It is an expression of the broadened dialogue within Docomomo International. Combining methodologies and knowledge of a wide range of disciplines has become a prime goal within Docomomo International encouraging and facilitating the exchange between the International Specialist Committees (ISCs) and the national and regional Working Parties. The present publication is the first manifestation of this new effort and combines the spirit of the multi-faceted technology dossiers into a fully-fledged journal bridging documentation and conservation.

We would like to thank and acknowledge the commitment of Robert Loader, Zsuzsanna Böröcz and Silvia Naldini who acted as guest editors of this “Plastic” issue. Thanks to their never-ending patience and persistence allied with the contributions and commitment of the professionals, scholars and researchers who generously collaborated with their knowledge, it is with great pleasure that we are launching this issue of the Docomomo Journal. A journal that – from now on – will be published both in print and online via OJS (www.docomomojournal.com), redesigned and provided with figures in color.

With special issues and open calls, the Docomomo Journal will be open to relevant contributions and facilitate academic and professional exchange. It will further include and elaborate the current docomomo themes of digitization, education and sustainability and offer a platform for the diverse approaches to and interpretations of the multiple modernities across the continents.