

The International Archive of Women in Architecture Center

School of Architecture + Design at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA

2020 IAWA Symposium – March 18-20, 2020

1x1 – The Potential of the Singular

Abstracts Due: November 1, 2019

Selections announced: December 1, 2019

The IAWA opens the call for abstracts for the 2020 IAWA Symposium -*1x1: The Potential of the Singular*. This year's symposium invites researchers and practitioners to contribute papers or creative presentations that focus on the relevance of the singular. The symposium seeks to shift attention away from large, collected bodies of work, in order to expand the recognized range of practices and individual women in architecture. The call seeks to uncover the diversity of singular contributions made by women in architecture and related disciplines, recognizing and highlighting the impact that certain individual instances, efforts or artifacts have had upon the architectural discipline.

The call asks participants to identify singular instances that reveal the architect's insight, which - though personal to her - have left an important imprint in architecture and design. We invite papers that delve deeply into a particular instance or artifact that casts a woman as a pioneer, and contextualize its rise and impact. Examples of possible papers are ones that delve deeply into singular pieces made by known women pioneers in architecture; these may bring new analysis of known pieces, or discuss newly discovered pieces. Alternatively, papers may discuss singular artifacts which might have defined a pioneering moment, but have not yet been acknowledged by history. We also invite work that discovers an artifact which has not yet been made visible, and speculates on its potential and value, casting a woman architect in a new light as a pioneer in the field. Overall, we welcome papers which are speculative, musing on possible connections, influences, or alternative unfoldings of history.

We invite historical papers, speculative presentations, and short films, among additional types of presentations. All presentations should be approximately 20 minutes in length, and may be accompanied by audio-visual material and resources.

Please email 300-word abstract and a one-page CV, by November 1, 2019 to:

ddunay@vt.edu

Subject heading: 2020 IAWA Symposium

Donna Dunay, FAIA

Chair, Board of Advisors, International Archive of Women in Architecture Center

School of Architecture + Design

Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia

The International Archive of Women in Architecture Center

Founded in 1985, the mission of the International Archive of Women in Architecture Center (IAWA) is to document the history of women's involvement in architecture by collecting, preserving, storing and making available to researchers the professional papers of women architects, landscape architects, designers, architectural historians and critics, urban planners as well as the records of women's architectural organizations, from around the world. The IAWA collects this information to fill serious gaps in the availability of primary research materials for architectural, women's and social history research. These materials are held in Special Collections of the University Libraries. The Board of Advisors of the IAWA Center are a group of elected representatives from around the world, who oversee the research, publication, and publicity of the IAWA as well as identify potential donors (funds and work) for the archive. The IAWA is dedicated to:

Find and preserve the records of the pioneer generation of women architects, interior and industrial designers, landscape architects, and urban designers and planners, whose papers may be lost or dispersed if not collected immediately;

Appeal to retired women from these professions who have played a part in the history of the professions to donate their papers to the IAWA;

Appeal to active women architects, designers, and planners to save their papers and to consider donating them to the IAWA at a later date;

Serve as a clearinghouse of information on all women architects, designers, and planners, past and present, and to encourage research on the history of women in these professions through seminars, exhibits, and publications;

Foster cooperation between all libraries or archives containing data on, or collecting material on, women in architecture, design, and planning.

The growing archive consists of sketches, manuscripts, books, individual projects, and the works of an entire career. Primary research materials (unique or original works) preserved in the Archive include architectural drawings, photographs and slides, manuscripts, models, and job files. To meet the need of serving as a clearinghouse of information about all women in architecture, past, and present, the IAWA also collects secondary materials such as biographical information in addition to books and other publications and exhibitions. Through many significant and diverse donations, the Archive is growing into a tremendous historical resource. ***The Archive currently now houses more than 450 collections*** and continues to grow in significance through donations from around the world. <https://spec.lib.vt.edu/IAWA/>