CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS Urban Infill | Historic Preservation

Kent State University’s Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative (CUDC) invites designers, writers, artists, and thinkers to submit abstracts for Volume 7 of our annual publication, Urban Infill. Urban Infill examines themes in contemporary urban design, architecture, and planning. Past volumes have addressed shrinking cities, temporary urbanism, urban hydrology, and storytelling, urban diagrams, and cold-climate design. Past issues can be previewed here: http://www.cudc.kent.edu/publications/urban_infill/index.html

Volume 7, tentatively titled Preservation Instigations, is devoted to historic preservation in a context of uncertainty and loss. We invite theoretical essays, design investigations, and case studies pertaining to the following themes and guiding questions:

• Guiding Principles Historic preservationists routinely separate contributing from non-contributing resources and attempt to situate structures within a pre-determined period of significance. We’re trying to provoke a response to prevailing practice, one that more fully acknowledges the fragility, vulnerability, and shifting values present in historic environments.

• Ephemerality How does historic preservation address living memories, the malleability of cities, and the residue of past eras? Can multiple periods of significance co-exist, even when they are contradictory? Can temporary interventions leave an enduring legacy?

• Transition As the historic context of a building, site or city begins to disintegrate, are there new ways to encourage aesthetic exploration, to view historic resources in a new light? The unexpected gift of a shrinking city is an opportunity for experimentation and play. Freed from the pressures of escalating real estate values and strict development standards, can we repurpose buildings and artifacts for creative endeavors?

• Attachment Much has been written about “nature deficit disorder” and the emotional and physical advantages that exposure to the natural environment can provide. Perhaps the historic built environment offers similar benefits—a kind of psychological resilience that comes from historical, cultural, and social associations embedded in the built environment.

Urban Infill welcomes new, in-progress or pre-published, original work.

Abstract Submissions

Please submit an abstract or description of 200 words or less, along with no more than five thumbnail images - total file size under 5MBs. Send abstracts and/or images to cudc@kent.edu no later than 9 JUNE 2014.

Full Submissions

On 17 JUNE 2014, you will be notified if your abstract has been accepted by the Urban Infill Editorial Board. Full submissions are due on or before 4 AUGUST 2014.

Submission Guidelines

• Authors are encouraged to write in a straightforward, nontechnical style.
• Articles of 1,500 or less are preferred; longer articles and image-oriented pieces can also be accommodated.
• The title should be concise yet descriptive of the content of the article; titles of 100 characters or fewer are preferred.
• For issues of style, we use The Chicago Manual of Style (University of Chicago Press).
• Images in any format (.jpg, .tif, .pdf, etc.) are welcome; 1200 dpi preferred.
• The author byline should contain the full name of each author and his or her affiliation(s).
• Avoid text footnotes or endnotes: incorporate them into the text if possible.

Relevant Dates

Abstracts due: 9 JUNE 2014
Notification to contributors: 17 JUNE 2014
Final submissions due: 4 AUGUST 2014
Expected publication: NOVEMBER 2014