

Revue internationale
d'histoire de la construction

Ædificare



Ædificare is an international, scholarly, multidisciplinary, multilingual journal examining every period and geographical area in which the history of construction has taken place. The journal is multilingual (English, German, French, Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese), peer-reviewed (by anonymous, double-blinded evaluation) and published by Classiques Garnier in a printed and online version.

Prices and subscriptions

Subscriptions to the journal (two issues per year) give access to the printed and digital versions.

Rates for the AFHC members

Members of the association benefit from a preferential rate.

These subscriptions must be purchased through the website of the association.

<https://www.histoireconstruction.fr/register>

- Subscriptions for individuals: 35€
- Subscriptions for students: 15€

Regular subscriptions

Subscriptions, outside the AFHC rates, are directly purchased from the publisher.

<https://classiques-garnier.com/aedificare.html>

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- Subscriptions for institutions (France/overseas): 80€ / 87 €

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Article submission

The journal welcomes original submissions or thematical issues. The editorial guidelines are available on the journal webpage. You can submit your article to the editorial board by email.

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Statement of intent

The success of the two French-language congresses on construction history (Paris, 2008; Lyon 2014) demonstrated the importance and dynamism of French-language research in this field, as has the way the members of the European community have rallied round this “lingua franca”. Moreover, the organisation in Paris of the 4th International Congress on Construction History in 2012 won France international recognition. Various congresses have been organised by the architecture schools of Paris La Villette, Paris Malaquais, Versailles and Lyon, the Conservatoire national des arts et métiers (CNAM) and the Université de Lyon 2 in partnership with the Centre national de recherche scientifique (CNRS) and the Association francophone d’histoire de la construction (AFHC). These congresses have given rise to publications by Éditions Picard (Édifices & Artifice, 2010; Nuts & Bolts, 2012; Les temps de la construction, 2016). Finally, given the unprecedented development, both nationally and internationally, over the past twelve years of the field of study and research connected to the theme of construction history, the Association francophone d’histoire de la construction and the research team Architecture histoire technique territoire patrimoine (ENSA Paris La Villette, UMR 3329) decided to launch a new international review in this field.

Despite the large number of existing journals in the academic, technical, architectural and heritage spheres, both in France and abroad, that publish research in our field, only one journal, the British Construction History Journal has existed for thirty years. This English-language journal offers historians and practitioners, enthusiasts and specialists in construction history, a high-quality academic place in which to publish and disseminate their research. But the great advantage of the English language, which facilitates communication, is also a handicap for European researchers who must have their texts translated. Finding good translators who are familiar with the fundamentals of construction (old and new) is both difficult and expensive. We also think that the act of translation often leads to a loss in meaning, however good the translation is.

It is thus to facilitate the communication of the research and preserve the richness of the languages that we envisage the creation of an international journal written in several European languages. The journal is managed with a view to scholarly complementarity and a good relationship with the publishers of the *International Journal of the Construction History Society*. The research report *L’histoire de la construction. Un méridien européen*, which takes stock per country of the research and teaching in the field for the years 2004-14, is undeniable proof of the growth in the field of construction history and consequently of the fact that a new publication in Europe is required*.

The journal has four main objectives :

- To make the public and construction professionals aware of the materiality of architecture (the role of the materials, construction processes, the construction site, the players in construction, etc.) and of its technical heritage.
- To create a work space that brings together researchers from different disciplines (history or art and architecture, history of techniques, archaeology, anthropologies, history of law and economics, etc.) and practitioners (architects, engineers, restorers, curators).
- To bring together researchers and professionals from large, medium-size and small building firms by reporting on the research carried out by these firms.
- To provide a platform for PhD students to publish articles about their current theses and their conclusions or outcomes.

* Antonio Becchi, Robert Carvais et Joël Sakarovitch (dir.), *L’histoire de la construction / Construction History, Relevé d’un chantier européen / Survey of a European Building Site*, Paris, Classiques Garnier, 2 vol., 2018.

Call for contributions

Construction history is not a discipline, but a subject of scholarly research that is increasing in demand both nationally and internationally. It concerns one of humanity's timeless aims, from antiquity to the present. Why and how to make a structured shelter for being or acting? This line of questioning is inevitably interdisciplinary. Thus, while construction history is in principle a field of the history of sciences and technology, it inevitably joins the humanities and social sciences in their most varied aspects, in numerous fields as a human endeavour but whose economic, legal, social and political contexts play a determining role. The archaeology of the built work is complemented by the archaeology of construction. The history of art, and in particular the history of architecture, which has been in crisis for a few years, endeavours to join this initiative by choosing new themes borrowed from this field, such as the building site, practical knowledge, the status of professions, etc.

Construction history is not merely material. Closely linked to the conception of the project, it also concerns immaterial aspects. That history later involves considerations of the people at work, business and corporate networks, and of credit, financing, and investment (whether financial or ideological). It begins from the moment when the client commissions a design from the mason – in days of yore – the architect or the engineer and continues with the implementation of the *disegno* and the functional execution of the built work.

This history may be approached exhaustively:

- either diachronically: conception, execution, maintenance/improvement, heritage
- or synchronically: process, actors, materials.

But we wish to further develop knowledge by introducing innovative transversal questions, developed from original sources, crossing methods belonging to various disciplines (archaeological excavations, paper archives, oral and drawn traces, non-written practical knowledge, reconstructions and experimental modelling, etc.).

The places of construction history are legion: from the quarry to the building site via the factory, from the stone cutter's lodge to the design offices via the company premises, from the architectural firms to the courtrooms via the administrator's desk, the solicitor's chamber and the scriptorium.

We thus call on all persons interested in writing a paper in the field of construction history, whatever the period chosen, from antiquity to the present day. For the launch of the journal, we will only suggest themes that might root your thoughts in a wide-ranging dialectic able to cross disciplinary approaches, such as, for example:

- Genealogy of the field / discipline
- Materiality in construction history
- An anthropological vision of building techniques
- The many sources of the building site
- The transmission of construction knowledge
- Actors and agents and economic means
- Constructing, maintaining, demolishing
- Property and the right to build
- Building technology or science?
- Construction literature
- Expertise and the sharing of technical or empirical knowledge

Terms and conditions of the journal

The journal of construction history is a multilingual, peer-reviewed and mainly published online.

- Multilingual: the six most widely spoken European languages as a mother tongue, second language or foreign language (English, German, French, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese) are accepted^{**}; where necessary, a summary (approximately 500 words) in English or French is required.
- Peer-reviewed: every proposal will be anonymously submitted double-blind to two members of the reading committee or to two persons chosen on an ad hoc basis depending on the subject. The journal is thus peer-reviewed and endowed with an international academic committee that guarantees that these rules will be respected.
- The journal is published online and in paper by Classiques Garnier.

The journal comprises three sections and be introduced by a relevant editorial.

- The first section contains at least four features based, if possible, on a single theme and thus make up a special report with introduction and bibliography. The length of these articles is not limited.
- The second section, entitled *varia*, contains shorter articles (5,000–8,500 words), debates, publications or translations of sources, interviews and examinations of the “state of research” open to young researchers for presentation of their works.
- The third section, entitled *comptes rendus*, includes reviews of books, articles, exhibitions, etc.

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^{**}Eurobaromètre spécial n° 386 of the European Commission: *Les Européens et leurs langues*, June 2012, study carried out in February–March 2012: http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs_386_fr.pdf [consulted on 1 April 2016].

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Instructions for authors

Accepted languages: French, English, German, Spanish, Italian

The conventions of each of the five languages accepted by the journal are respected, including:

- The use of quotation marks with or without non-breaking spaces: « , “ , ‘ .
- Non-breaking spaces before or after punctuation: « , “ , ‘ ; ; , ; , ? , ! , etc.
- Capitals in titles (Germanic languages)
- The accents (or lack thereof) specific to each language.
- The use of Roman or Arabic numerals for centuries (XVII^e siècle, but 17th century)
- The way of citing dates.

Apart from these conventions, the rules of the journal are accessible online at :

<https://www.histoireconstruction.fr/aedificare>

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