Special Issue

The Impact of Human Activities and Behavioural Patterns on the Shape, Organisation and Meaning of the Built Environment

Message from the Guest Editors

The built environment as seen today is the product of a long evolution and a concrete expression of a unique combination between sociocultural patterns, physical conditions and the economic systems of resources, as well as the elaboration of these resources. Some of these factors are determinants in giving shape and meaning to the built environment, while others are only modifiers. The identification of a "place" is generated from a complex interaction between the physical environment, social systems, behaviours and interactions, as well as economic systems. The examination of the built environment in terms of activities and behavioural patterns helps us to understand the shape and meaning of places. Cultures have different values, leading to unwritten rules, reflected in the selective enforcement of physical devices to reach the desired need. This has far-reaching consequences on the shape, structure and space organisation of the built environment.

Guest Editors

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Current urban environments are home to multi-modal transit systems, extensive energy grids, a building stock, and integrated services. Sprawling neighborhoods are composed of buildings that accommodate living and working quarters. However, it is expected that the cities and communities of the future will face complex and enormous challenges, including maintenance, interconnectivity, resilience, energy efficiency, and sustainability issues, to name but a few. A smart city uses advanced technologies and a digital infrastructure to improve the outcomes in every aspect of a city's operations. A smart building optimizes the experience of occupants, staff, and management by using a modern and connected environment. Innovations in technology that can bring dramatic improvements to design, planning, and policy are critical in developing the cities and buildings of the future.

Editor-in-Chief

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