



Topics and Subjects in Construction History

History of Construction: Object of Study or Discipline?

- Definitions of construction history and/or its components
- Relationships to related disciplines (history of technology, archaeology, geology, ecology, urbanism, landscape)
- Sources: buildings, archives and documents
- Methods of research, analysis and evaluation; communications tools
- Teaching, pedagogy with regard to engineers and architects

Theoretical Thought and Applied Sciences

- Ideas, design, competitions
- Applied Sciences: engineering, natural disasters and fire, interior environment (heating, ventilation, air conditioning, lighting, acoustics), hydraulics, structural morphology, ergonomics
- Scientific and technical controversies
- Function, feasibility, sustainability
- Model, modeling, analytical methods
- Invention, innovation
- Constitution, diffusion and transfer of knowledge
- Models, drawings
- Relations between science and practice
- The technical publication: technical writing and drawings
- Experimentation, control, quality

Constructive techniques and materials

- Techniques and applied arts: Stereotomy, carpentry, masonry, engineering (civil, military, maritime), technology, cladding, decoration
- Heritage: expertise, preservation, restoration, rehabilitation
- Constructive elements: foundations and floors, walls, bays, elements of support and stability, spanning (lintel, arc, vault, ceiling), frame, roofing, staircase
- Constructive process: prefabrication, standardization, technical gestures, disorderliness and faulty workmanship, reuse
- Materials: earth, wood, metal, stone, concrete, glass, fabric, composite materials, binders
- Tools, instruments, apparatuses, machines, heavy equipment
- Places of practice: workshops, lodges, construction sites
- Infrastructure and public works: bridges, dams, roadways and diverse networks

Social and cultural perspectives

- Law: estimates and contracts, legislation, regulations, codes, technical norms and trade practices, customs, expertise, control, patents, ownership, leasing, easements, neighborliness, responsibility, architect, client
- Economy: history of companies, construction trades, economic analyses of construction, accounts, prices, cost, wages, financing, production, quantity surveying, estimating, risk, speculation
- Social history of labor: training, teaching, academies, technical literature, archives, corporations, craft industry, trade-guilds, emigration/immigration, organization of work
- Construction professions and knowledge of the trades, biographies

- Construction politics and policies
- Cultural influences of the society on construction and vice versa (construction history in literature, cinema and television)