

This volume gathers the proceedings of the first international scientific conference dedicated to adaptive reuse, marking a significant occasion for dialogue among scholars, architects, researchers, and practitioners engaged with one of the most pressing questions in contemporary architecture. Conceived as the beginning of a long-term and patient research trajectory, the conference sets out to investigate adaptive reuse in its full complexity: by tracing its historical roots, examining the cultural and architectural debates that have shaped it over time, and reflecting on the ways in which contemporary design is responding to the growing need to work with existing buildings, ruins, and inherited spaces. It also looks ahead, asking what kinds of theoretical, technical, and civic challenges adaptive reuse will need to confront in the future.

At the heart of the book lies the conviction that adaptive reuse is not simply a design method or a technical response to obsolescence, but a broader cultural and civic responsibility.

To reuse architecture means to engage critically with memory, materiality, and the layered meanings embedded in places, while imagining how these spaces may enter new cycles of life. Through an international and multidisciplinary perspective, the papers collected here bring together different voices, experiences, and fields of expertise, offering a rich framework for understanding reuse as both a theoretical inquiry and a practical undertaking.

By bringing into conversation contributions from different geographical, cultural, and disciplinary contexts, the volume expands the discussion beyond local or isolated cases, opening a broader reflection on the shared conditions and diverse approaches that define adaptive reuse today. The texts explore how architecture can preserve historical significance while making room for transformation, how design can mediate between continuity and change, and how existing structures can become active participants in contemporary life rather than passive remnants of the past. Bridging theory and practice, history and project, past and future, this book proposes adaptive reuse as one of the most urgent and creative fields of architectural thought today.



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Proceedings of the International Conference on Adaptive Reuse Volume 1

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edited by

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