



NORDISK ARKITEKTURFORSKNING

Nordic Journal of Architectural Research

1-2016

**THEME ISSUE
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE:
INTELLECTUAL TRADITIONS
IN A NORDIC CONTEXT**

Nordic Journal of Architectural Research

ISSN: 1893-5281

Theme Editor:

Per Hedfors, Division of Landscape Architecture, Department of Urban and Rural Development, Swedish University of Agricultural, Sweden.

Chief Editors:

Claus Bech-Danielsen,

Danish Building Research Institute, Aalborg University, Denmark.

Madeleine Granvik,

Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Department of Urban and Rural Development, Unit of Landscape architecture, Sweden.

Anni Vartola,

Architecture Information Centre Finland, Finland.

For more information on the editorial board for the journal and board for the association, see <http://arkitekturforskning.net/na/pages/view/Editors>

Submitted manuscripts

Manuscripts are to be sent to Madeleine Granvik (Madeleine.Granvik@slu.se), Claus Bech-Danielsen (cbd@sbi.aau.dk) and Anni Vartola (anni.vartola@gmail.com) as a text file in Word, using Times New Roman font. Submitted papers should not exceed 8 000 words exclusive abstract, references and figures. The recommended length of contributions is 5 000–8 000 words. Deviations from this must be agreed with the editors in chief. See Author's Guideline for further information.

Subscription

Students/graduate students

Prize: 27.5 Euro

Individuals (teachers, researchers, employees, professionals)

Prize: 38.5 Euro

Institutions (libraries, companies, universities)

Prize: 423 Euro

Membership for the association

5.5 Euro (for individuals who get access to the journal through institutions)

Students and individual subscribers must inform about their e-mail address in order to get access to the journal. After payment, send the e-mail address to Trond Haug, trond.haug@sintef.no

Institutional subscribers must inform about their IP-address/IP-range in order to get access to the journal. After payment, send the IP-address/IP-range to Trond Haug, trond.haug@sintef.no

Payment

Sweden, pay to: postgirokonto 419 03 25-3

Denmark, pay to: Danske Bank 16780995, reg.nr. 3409

Finland, pay to: Danske Bank 800013-70633795, IBAN code FI30 8000 1370 6337 95

Norway, pay to: Den Norske Bank 7877.08.13769

Outside the Nordic countries pay in Euro to SWIFT-address: PGS ISESS Account no: 4190325-3, Postgirot Bank Sweden, SE 105 06 Stockholm

Published by SINTEF Academic Press

P O Box 124 Blindern, NO-0314 Oslo, Norway

CONTENTS

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE: INTELLECTUAL TRADITIONS IN A NORDIC CONTEXT. EDITORS' NOTE	5
PER HEDFORS, MADELEINE GRANVIK, CLAUS BECH-DANIELSEN AND ANNI VARTOLA	
TYPOLOGISERING AV KRITIKKER I HAVEKUNST: SKRIFTLIG FREMSTILT LANDSKAPSARKITEKTUR SOM UTTRYKK FOR EN TANKETRADISJON	9
NINA MARIE ANDERSEN	
PUBLICATIONS USED IN THE EARLY YEARS OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE: SEVEN NORDIC SCHOLARS' SELECTION	33
PER HEDFORS	
DEN EUROPEISKE LANDSKAPSKONVENSJONEN – EN PASTORALE FOR VÅR EGEN TID?	51
ANNE KATRINE GEELMUYDEN OG MARIUS FISKEVOLD	
ESSAYS	
BIDRAG TIL EN FRAMVOKSENDE TANKETRADISJON – OM MIN VEI TIL ERKJENNELSE	81
OLAV R. SKAGE	
FRA KOMPENDIER TIL BANEKRYTTEDE FORSKNINGSLITTERATUR TEORI OG TANKETRADISJONER INNEN LANDSKAPSARKITEKTUR	93
KARSTEN JØRGENSEN	
GRØNNSTRUKTUR I NORSK TAPNING. IDÉGRUNNLAG OG INSPIRASJONER	109
KINE HALVORSEN THORÉN	
MILJÖETIK, DIDAKTIK OCH MOBILITET I NORDISK LANDSKAPSARKITEKTUR?	131
DAVID KRONLID	
DEBATE	
ARKITEKTFÖRMÅGAN SOM TILLVÄGÅNGSSÄTT VID UTFORSKNING – VAD ÄR FORSKNING INOM ARKITEKTPROFESSIONEN?	145
LENNART NORD	

THEME ISSUE:

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE: INTELLECTUAL TRADITIONS IN A NORDIC CONTEXT

PER HEDFORS, MADELEINE GRANVIK,
CLAUS BECH-DANIELSEN AND ANNI VARTOLA

Editors' Notes

The Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences arranged the symposium *Urkunder och husgudar* (Records and House Gods) in Uppsala in 2012. The theme was "Theory and intellectual traditions in landscape architecture in a Nordic context". This is also the theme of this issue. The idea of the symposium, as well as this theme issue, is to contribute to the development of theory in landscape architecture – a discipline that can be described as young and practice-oriented. The focus is on the situation in the Nordic countries as a natural demarcation in relation to other language areas dominated by Anglo-American influences.

The theoretical basis of an academic discipline is revised more or less continuously. However, in the case of landscape architecture, as a young discipline in the academic world, much of this work is still to come. The literature that unequivocally intends to contribute to the identification and formation of subject theory of landscape architecture is severely limited. Some reviews have come in recent years in which fragments from various authors have been categorized into themes and then been commented. An exception is Michael D. Murphy's *Landscape architecture theory – an evolving body of thought*, and a new edition is planned for autumn 2016: *Landscape architecture theory: an ecological approach*. Nevertheless, this literature is characterized by being dominated by AngloAmerican sources.

Landscape architecture is here seen in the broad sense as a field of knowledge which is consulted both in management, planning and design. Knowledge is applied from a broad spectrum of natural sciences, social sciences and the humanities. This wide range may be a contributing factor to the scant supply on reviews of the subject theory, because it is a challenge to reproduce the spectrum in a simple and meaningful way. Landscape architecture borrows a variety of theories from different sources, however not randomly, but in relation to the need for knowledge in managing physical changes at a site in one or another scale. In addition to the mapping of the strategic selections of theory from other disciplines, is the development of unique subject theory ongoing. This is defined as the theory that no other discipline has reason to develop. Examples of such a theory are about space formation of plants and vegetation or about the spatial entanglement of the living structures and built structures in different scales from garden art to regional planning. Seven landscape architects who have held academic key positions within landscape architecture in the Nordic countries were particularly invited to the symposium. Their presentations are published in the anthology *Urkunder och husgudar – Pionjäreernas litteratur och andra källor till landskapsarkitektur* (Records and House Gods – Pioneers' literature and other sources of landscape architecture). Additional presentations and panel discussions were conducted at the symposium. In connection with the symposium authors were invited to write on the same theme and these contributions have resulted in the present theme issue. This issue includes eight contributions: three scientific contributions, four essays, and one debate. The scientific contributions and the essays have all been reviewed by two independent, anonymous experts. Three of the contributions were presented at the symposium, two others are reflections of the symposium and three are contributions more in general regarding the theme of this issue.

This theme issue takes a starting point in the literary education in landscape architecture and focuses on publications and writings as essential sources of information; this despite, or perhaps because of, an information transfer and knowledge generation that in many cases occur in other ways than through readings (master/apprentice exchanges, excursions to habitats and outdoor facilities, designers as role models, sketching etc.). While the anthology describes both the importance of "tacit" knowledge as well as the theoretical basis for the education and profession of these Nordic pioneers in landscape architecture, this theme issue is an attempt to document some of the written sources that have been used. The invitation to the symposium as well as the issue requested contributions concerning the following: Which writings have inspired you or made substantial knowledge in your professional career? Are there *records* that you want to highlight (books, articles, other publications)?

The issue begins with a study of the journal *Havetekunst* conducted by

Nina Marie Andersen. The journal started in 1920 and changed its name to *Landskap* and later *Landskab*. The journal is seen as contributing to the tradition of landscape architecture and believed to have played an important role in the development of the discipline in the Nordic region. Andersen's research question is about different forms of criticism that were developed in the journal. The second contribution, by Per Hedfors, is a compilation and analysis of the literature that the seven specially invited persons to the symposium expressed, which is documented in the anthology *Urkunder och husgudar*. The third scientific contribution comes from Anne Katrine Geelmuyden and Marius Fiskevold. The paper deals with the European Landscape Convention and it clearly links to the development of theory and intellectual traditions in landscape architecture especially in recent years.

The section with essays starts with three personal stories about literature and other influences that the different authors remember as significant in their careers. The first one is by Olav R. Skage, the first landscape architect in the Nordic countries who defended a dissertation. The following two essays by Anne-Karine Halvorsen Thorén and Karsten Jørgensen are natural continuations of Skage's story. In an interesting way they bring two perspectives of the subsequent generation of landscape architects in the academic world. All three essays are contributions from Norway. The last essay has a different character and is a request for an outside perspective on the discipline of landscape architecture. The theologian and educator David Kronlid examines three perspectives from his own research related to the field of landscape architecture. This has been conducted through a reading of the contributions from the symposium, and thus raises thoughts on new fields of research. Finally, a debate by Lennart Nord is published, which criticizes the symposium, its theme and research question. The debate post makes the situation clear for the modest development of subject theory and the focus on the ability of professional performers. This contribution thus provides possible explanations for why the discipline is not developed more on a theoretical level, even though the subject theory is mainly for supporting the capacity for professional performers. Nord also made a draft of an essay, which still reveals that the theme of the symposium and the theme issue attracted his thought. We have chosen to publish a list of the literature that he claimed.

Through the issue different types of perspectives are highlighted, and the reader may perceive that different schools of thought emerge. The expectation is that it will contribute to new ideas and enables new theory by pointing to gaps in knowledge and needs of future research.

June 2016

