

SAUHA (Society of Architectural and Urban Historians Asia) Roundtable

Oceanic Networks and Connections

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DOI: 10.55939/a5441pp0m0

Citation:

Sobti, Manu, Anoma Pieris, John Ting, Paul Memmott, Amanda Achimadi, Paul Walker, and Peter Scriver. "SAUHA (Society of Architectural and Urban Historians Asia) Roundtable: Oceanic Networks and Connections." In *Proceedings of the Society of Architectural Historians, Australia and New Zealand: 40, Islands*, edited by Ashley Paine and Kirsty Volz, 105-06. Brisbane, Australia: SAHANZ, 2025.

Accepted for publication on ✓

Proceedings of the Society of Architectural Historians, Australia and New Zealand (SAHANZ) Volume 40

Confere hosted by the University of Queensland and the Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane 2-4 December 2024

Edited by Ashley Paine and Kirsty Volz

Published in Brisbane by SAHANZ, 2025

ISBN: 978-1-7638772-0-7

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SAHANZ Society of Architectural Historians Australia & New Zealand



December 2-4 2024

Brisbane, Australia

SAUHA (Society of Architectural and Urban Historians Asia) Roundtable

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This roundtable approaches the subject of islands through their roles in regional oceanic networks and connections, focusing on the Southern Oceans in both geographical and political senses. From this oceanic perspective, the panel seeks discussion about architectures and urban environments in ways that can transcend national imaginaries to consider Asian/Indo-Pacific regions as a geographical continuum. This shift in perspective seeks to challenge stereotypes of boundaries, borders, and other extraneous definitions of island architectures by focusing on how separation and interconnectivity influence histories and historiographies of insular built environments, through political, diasporic, and migratory flows. In this, we are vitally interested in how thinking through islands and archipelagos as both counterpoint and part of broader spatialised hegemonies and geopolitical forces may shed light on how social and political factors are represented and embodied within urban, architectural and landscape environments. Individual presenters focus on contested manifestations of imperial or wartime occupation, constructed environments as arenas for shifts in geopolitical influence, the roles of particular building and urban types as embodiments of broader oceanic flows and influences, and the historical relationships between land, sea, and air that underly insular environments.

This roundtable will discuss the following publications:

Anoma Pieris and Lynne Horiuchi, *The Architecture of Confinement: Incarceration Camps of the Pacific War* (Cambridge University Press, 2022)

Paul Memmott, John Ting, Tim O'Rourke and Marcel Vellinga, eds., *Design and the Vernacular: Interpretations for Contemporary Architectural Practice and Theory* (Bloomsbury, 2023)

Amanda Achmadi, Paul Walker, Soon-Tzu Speechley, eds., *Architectural Encounters in Asia Pacific: Built Traces of Intercolonial Trade, Industry and Labour, 1800s–1950s* (Bloomsbury, 2024)

Peter Scriver, Amit Srivastava, and Vladimir Kulic, eds., *Learning from Construction: 'South-South' Cooperation Across the Archipelago of the Ex-Colonial Building World* [forthcoming]