



Post-COVID Architecture Research

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Message from the Guest Editor

At present, many countries, in search of stimuli to restart their COVID-19-ravaged economies, provide subsidies to the construction industry, which results in new builds and major revitalization projects. Of concern is that most of these are conducted along the lines of 'business as usual', perpetuating designs that were conceptualized before the COVID-19 pandemic. There seems to be little consideration whether the existing designs are appropriate for futureproofing human existence in urban and suburban settings.

This is the time to rethink how we design our future personal and wider urban environment and how we modify and adapt existing structures. Failure to do so will lock in old design. Clearly, solutions will also be geographically specific and culturally appropriate, informed by and derived from local design and building traditions.

This exciting Special Issue of *Buildings* will focus on the COVID-19 pandemic. We are looking for case studies and conceptual papers that address one or more aspects of the following to reduce the opportunities for virus transmission.





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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.

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