

The Book Beyond the Library: The FAUP Case



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2nd HMU International Week for Academic Libraries, 21st-
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“A collective platform... with the desire to transform a shared understanding of architecture into an educational project.”

Alexandre Alves Costa

What is an academic library today?

Three spaces, three relationships with the book

Library

Documentation Center

Bookshop

Access & Research

Preservation & Memory

Circulation & Dissemination

The book as a study resource

The book as a document

The book as an object

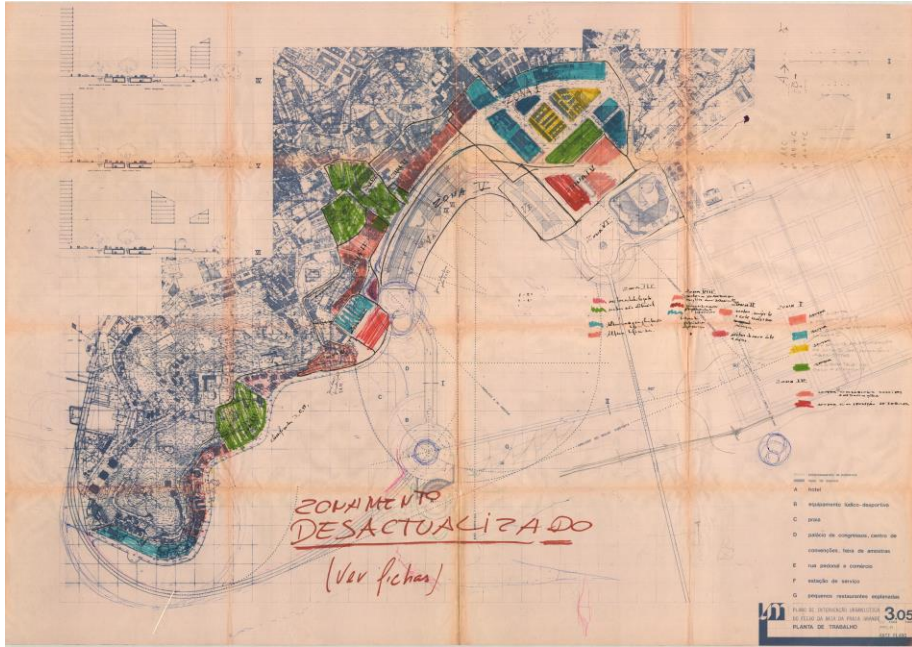
FAUP Library

- Specialised in architecture
- Support teaching and research
- On-site consultation
- Borrowing/requesting, according to library rules
- Direct resource for students, researchers and other users (no appointment required)



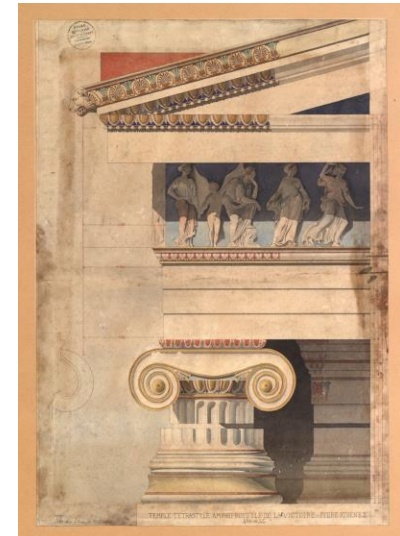
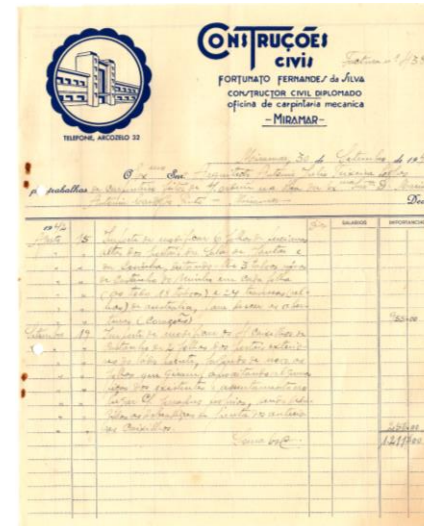


- The book is integrated into a bibliographic collection intended for use by its readers
- Includes a dedicated area for rare and restricted-access books.
- Temperature and humidity control are not a priority



Knowledge is not only found in books.

it is also found in drawings, photographs,
projects, magazines, maps, manuscripts,
models, administrative documents, etc.





CDUA – Urban planning and Architecture Documentation Center

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What is it?

specializing in architecture and urban planning

What is its mission?

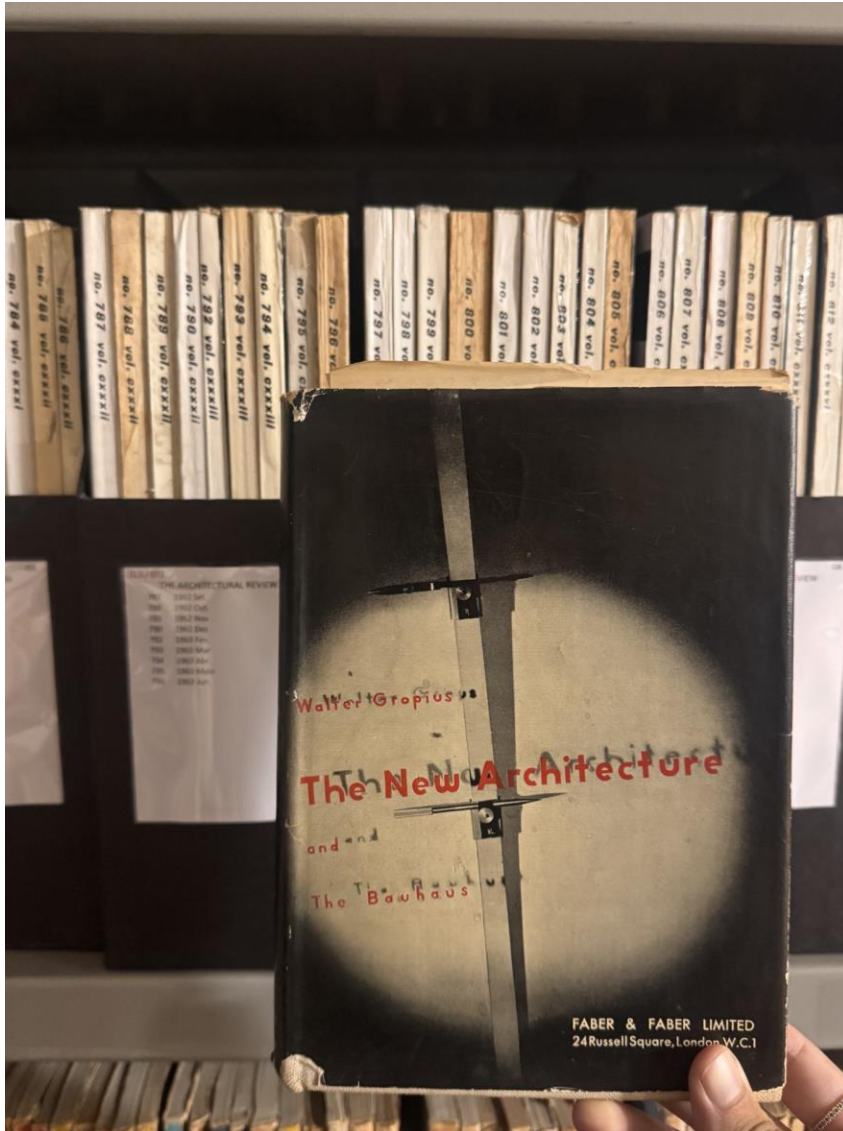
- Collect, preserve, organize, and make documentation available
- Support research and teaching
- Preserve disciplinary and institutional memory

For whom?

Researchers
Students
Professors
Architects
Historians
Others



When does a book become an archival document?



A book is not valued solely for its content

- object belonging to a particular architect
- testament to their interests and references
- integral part of a personal library
- element of a documentary collection
- a document related to a project or professional career

In the library, the question might be:

- What information does this book contain and how can I make it available to users?

In the archive/documentation center, it might be:

- Who did this book belong to?
- In what context was it collected?
- What is its relationship to the rest of the documentary collection?"





The book also gains contextual and patrimonial value.

- Books are not available for loan
- Consultation is exclusively on-site
- Respecting the preservation conditions and rules of access to the documentary collection
- PRICELESS VALUE
- Temperature and humidity are controlled
- Appointment required.



FAUP BOOKSTORE

- Its function is dissemination and commercialization
- The space does not require temperature and humidity control
- It is not a space for bibliographic consultation
- It can be handled freely
- Book as an object with a price
- It is managed by the Students' Association
- Space for conversations and debates about architecture.





The same physical object can assume completely different functions depending on the location

More than just different spaces with books, it's about different ways of assigning value, access, and meaning to the book.



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