

# **Research** **Methods** **for** **Architecture**

Ray Lucas

Laurence King Publishing

# Contents

- 6 Introduction: What is architectural research?**
- 10 The etic and the emic
- 11 Depth and focus as a variable
- 11 Context: methodology, theory**
- 14 Thesis: antithesis: synthesis
- 15 Architectural History (not history of architecture)
- 15 Architectural Social Sciences (not social science of architecture)
- 16 Architectural Philosophy (not philosophy of architecture)
- 17 The structure of the book
  
- 24 PART 1: FUNDAMENTALS OF ARCHITECTURAL RESEARCH**
  
- 24 Chapter 1: Defining your research question**
- 25 What do you want to find out?
- 29 Defining your terms
- 29 Framing a research question
- 31 Exercises for developing a research question
  
- 36 Chapter 2: Defining your research methodology**
- 36 How can you find something out?
- 37 Conventional research methodologies.
- 43 Validating your approach
- 45 Reflective practitioners and practice-based research
  
- 46 Chapter 3: Building your literature review**
- 48 Establishing your field
- 48 Finding relevant works
- 51 Archival research
- 53 Evaluating sources
- 56 How to review a text
  
- 58 Chapter 4: Cross-disciplinary working**
- 59 Defining your discipline
- 61 Identifying cross-disciplinary texts or partners
- 64 Finding common ground and a common language
- 64 Practicalities of cross-disciplinary work
- 66 Collaboration: frameworks and practicalities**
  
- 68 Chapter 5: Conducting and documenting fieldwork**
- 70 What is the field?
- 73 Preparing for fieldwork
- 74 Documentation: field notes and sketchbooks
- 75 Recording media: photography, video, audio
- 78 Analyzing your fieldwork
  
- 80 Chapter 6: Conducting interviews and communication**
- 81 Who should you interview?
- 83 Types of interview

87	Recording and transcription	164	<b>Chapter 13:</b>
88	Analyzing your interviews		<b>Ethnographic research</b>
		164	Conducting ethnographic research
<b>90</b>	<b>Chapter 7:</b>	166	Writing culture
	<b>Writing up</b>	168	Using ethnographic research by others
91	Knowing your audience	169	Case Study: Ethnographies of creative practice – experiment or ethnography?
94	Your duty to the reader: structuring your writing		
<b>102</b>	<b>PART 2:</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>Chapter 14:</b>
	<b>PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS</b>		<b>Drawing, diagrams and maps</b>
	<b>AND CASE STUDIES</b>	176	A practice native to architecture
		177	The sketchbook as a storeroom for ideas
		178	Case Study: 'Getting Lost in Tokyo'
<b>102</b>	<b>Chapter 8:</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>Chapter 15:</b>
	<b>Material culture</b>		<b>Conclusion: Theory and practice</b>
103	The commodity status of things	<b>192</b>	<b>Glossary</b>
108	Entanglements of people and things	<b>194</b>	<b>Endnotes</b>
109	Stuff as cultural indicator	<b>201</b>	<b>Bibliography</b>
<b>HI</b>	Case Study: The cart at assemblage	<b>204</b>	<b>Index</b>
<b>114</b>	<b>Chapter 9:</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>Acknowledgments</b>
	<b>Environmental psychology</b>		
114	James Gibson and alternative approaches to space		
115	People-environment studies		
116	Case Study: 'InflectingSpace'		
<b>125</b>	<b>Chapter 10:</b>		
	<b>Architectural histories</b>		
126	Historiography of architecture: historians and their histories		
133	Case Study: The architectural manifesto		
<b>140</b>	<b>Chapter 11:</b>		
	<b>The politics of space</b>		
142	Politics and the language of architecture		
145	The right to the city		
146	Society of the spectacle		
149	Case Study: 'Cultures of Legibility'		
<b>152</b>	<b>Chapter 12:</b>		
	<b>Philosophy, phenomenology and the experience of space</b>		
153	Applications of philosophy to architecture		
154	Linguistic analogies in architecture		
157	Dwelling and being-in-space		
160	Case study: Sensory notation		