

Contents

Architectural modernity in India

Sources and perspectives for research

An introduction

<i>Éléonore Muhidine</i>	11
The postcard as a tool for architectural and urban research	18
Modern architecture in India: a history of transfer over the long 20th century	22
Modern India through the eyes of European intellectuals	28
References	34

Building Postcards: Rössler's Calcutta 1896

<i>Omar Khan</i>	37
The Calcutta series by W. Rössler	38
Interferences and cultural transfers between India and Europe around 1900	42
The postcard: a European invention and its introduction in India	44
The Calcutta series: a visual approach	47
Postcards and architectural views in the colonial context	54
Rössler's impossible return to India	58
References	64

Greetings from Bombay! Pictures of Colonial Complexity

<i>Preeti Chopra</i>	67
The Bombay Fort and its urban design	68
The Post Office building: a colonial landmark	71

From Floral to Flora Fountain	72
Apollo Bunder, the Gateway to India	79
Heritage and decolonization	83
References	86

Delhi—Beyond its 'appearance'

<i>Anupam Bansal</i>	89
Settlement types	92
Vasant Kunj as a spatial transect	93
Urban Villages—Kishangarh, Masoodpur & Mahipalpur	95
Unauthorized Colony—Green Avenue	99
Current challenges—Ecological / Unsafe Buildings in Villages / Unsanitary living conditions of JJC	100
Future Trajectories and opportunities	102
References	104

Transport and Communication as Symbols of Modernity in India:

A Cultural Perspective

<i>Shraddha Bhatawadekar</i>	107
Colonial Undertones in Transport and Communication in India	113
Changing Architectural Norms of the 20 th Century	119
Utilitarian Needs of the Post-Independence Period	121
Transport and Communication as Heritage Symbols	125
References	126

Before take-off: waiting for India's globalization at the Sahar

International Airport in 1974

<i>Yves-Marie Rault-Chodankar</i>	129
When India was sleeping: the modest role of Mumbai airport in 1970s India	130
Dreaming of greatness: the ambitions of an Indian airport	131
Rooting for the world: locating the airport in Mumbai	132
Rising above the Paddy: the transformation of Mumbai's airport	134
References	135

**The Taj Mahal Hotel, Imperial, Sun'n'Sand, Oberoi, and others:
the Indian chapter of the 20th-century grand hotel**

<i>Éléonore Muhidine</i>	137
The grand hotels of India: urban markers of decolonization and Independence (Taj Mahal Hotel, Ashok, Oberoi, and Clarks)	138
Foreign interests: from the New Delhi Imperial to the Bombay Hilton (1936–1960s)	143
References	148

Image, recto, verso, context. Approaching Deltiology as a method

<i>Ben Kaden</i>	149
Postcards and visual urban research	152
Collecting images	155
Researching images (and messages).....	157
Postcards as social media.....	159
Social (texts).....	159
Contexts	160
Applied deltiological city scaping: every building on the Karl-Marx-Allee	161
Reading the image	162
Reading the message	165
Reading the object	166
But: not every message on the Karl-Marx-Allee (collecting contingency).....	167
Image, message, object—reading is fundamental	168
Legal limitations	170
Digitization (Postcards as digital research material).....	170
Summary	172
Coda: Happy New Year 1966.....	173
References	174

Framing Fragments

The Image, Modernity, and Architecture

<i>Saptarshi Sanyal</i>	177
The Image as a Site of Architectural Production	177
Fragments and Fiction	180

The Photographic Gaze: From Above and Below	182
References	183
List of figures	187
Authors	191