

The Registry of Itinerant Architectures

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The project grows from my research interest in spaces that are not traditionally regarded as “architectural,” but which have aesthetic qualities that trigger architectural imagination and ultimately suggest alternative architectural futures.

These spaces include weather events such as winds, storms, and droughts; environmental mobilities such as the movement of air, water, and earth, as well as patterns of multi-species migration; and technological structures such as packs, poles, and shelters that are carried through the landscape. I engage performative multi-day hiking and camping practices to produce diverse architectural, installation, and digital artworks, and I also write through these practices to publish in a range of journals. My work is relevant to creative communities globally and is broadly shared through my embedded roles in tertiary education and cultural institutions.

The research for this project has so far been conducted primarily in National Parks in Australia, Italy, India, Spain, and USA (since 2022). Most recently, I have developed works at Joshua Tree National Park in the USA as the inaugural International [Artist in Residence](#) (November 2024). In August 2025, I will continue this project as a Leighton Studio Resident at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity in Canada. In November 2026, I will show this work at the National Parks Service Black Rock Art Gallery in California. The objective of this research project is to define a threshold of materiality at which a space can be described as “architectural.” This broad objective guides big and small ideas concerning inhabitation, environmental impact and future architectural practice. Through cycles of library/archive-based research, intensive writing, and embodied practice I will interrogate the following core research questions:

- How much architectural “material” can we subtract from an environment or landscape to still perceive a sense of shelter and protection?
- How much comfort should trail huts/refuges provide; what is the architectural baseline of a refuge and how does this differ across environments or landscapes globally?
- What role does a formed path, a handrail, a tent or a wayfinding sign play in mediating the environment or landscape, and how do these elements differ from those I have investigated in other environments or landscapes globally?

The library/archive-based research cycle will focus on the histories of hiking and climbing practices in the alpine landscapes of Bavaria and Tyrol, and in particular on the architectural contexts of such practices. I will investigate contemporary trail and alpine hut networks and compare these with networks I have investigated in contrasting landscapes. I will engage with the RCC library, as well as collections held in alpine-specific libraries (in Munich, the Alpines Museum; in Innsbruck, the Alpine Club Museum; in Bern, the Swiss Alpine Museum; in various locations, the Messner Mountain Museums).

The writing cycle will focus on pulling together a suite of texts from previous and current research in the project. I anticipate that this will include a journal article, a book proposal and a series of creative texts (much of which may already be in process by the time I arrive). This month of writing will be a rare opportunity for me to really focus exclusively on writing, something I very rarely have the opportunity to do with my current academic role.

The embodied practice cycle will involve physically walking a range of trails and staying in huts and/or campgrounds according to the directions established in the library/archive-based research cycle. I will engage autoethnographic methodologies that are already well-established in my practice. This cycle forms the foundation of future creative outputs that are then fed back into the interactive digital register at www.itinerant.academy.