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Places

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To Rally Discussion

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To Rally Discussion

The purpose of *Places* is to rally discussion.

We want it to be provocative, to cause us to see places in new ways, and to elicit comment on issues that are embedded in the places where we live. *Places* asks those who have developed ways of caring about places to share their ideas, and it seeks to stir the imaginations of those who have not yet realized that their interests are at stake.

We will publish descriptions, drawings, photographs, and discussions on all types of places: big and small, special and ordinary, public and private, old and new, hidden and found, run-down and tended. *Places* will examine how professionals deal with the conceptual and technical design of places. *Places* will look at how people have shaped satisfying places, with and without professional assistance. And *Places* will publish the results of research because our ideas about place must be subject to testing and reassessment.

Each issue of the journal will carry a mix of articles and comment. The longer features will explore ideas that affect the ways in which we structure our thoughts about places and the many ways in which the concrete reality of place has consequences in our lives. "Place debates" will examine places from several viewpoints: Milton Keynes in England and Piazza d'Italia in New Orleans are scheduled for the

next two issues. We shall also include many short features and essays that quickly bring our attention to issues, share design ideas, or highlight responses:

Visual essays that evoke the quality of place in new ways and representations that shift the focus of attention from professional artifact to experienced places and summon the skills of the artist to awaken latent understandings.

Contrasts of design presentation and built reality, of winners and runners-up of competitions, of similar places in different cultures, and of the same place at different times.

Fantasy design schemes that reach beyond the practical into the scarcely possible, or change a real design or place into one that challenges belief.

Perceptions, memories, hopes, and gripes of individuals and groups about their environments, and even *manifestos*, which assert what the nature of place ought to be.

And with your help there will be *argument*.

Send letters of response, articles, short features, and visual essays to the editors for review. Submissions should be brisk, urgent, and readable; they should make readers care.

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