

# NONUMENT!

PRESS



**Nonument** is hidden, abandoned, unwanted or otherwise forgotten monuments, architecture & spaces.

**Changes in political and social structures in the 20th century have inherently changed the way built spaces of the era are perceived today.** These changes call for a **different approach to evaluating, mapping, archiving and preserving architectures, public spaces and monuments**, built in the 20th century.

From architecture as a witness of traumatic events to infrastructural projects that have lost their function, from decaying monuments that have lost their (original) meaning to utopian structures and forgotten public spaces, these built spaces carry symbolic value within their narrative, but are not recognised as monuments.

**The term Nonument describes architectures, public spaces and monuments that have undergone a process of transformation within which they have acquired a new meaning.** Nonuments are hidden, abandoned, unwanted or otherwise forgotten built spaces, which used to have a strong symbolic value, and have the potential to be repurposed, reclaimed and reused.



## **Nonuments include 20th Century:**

- **Arhitectural ruins that have transformed into monuments or public spaces**
- **Monuments or architecture that have lost their (original) meaning**
- **Forgotten public spaces that have been used for other purposes**
- **Decaying monuments**
- **Infrastructural projects that have lost their original function**
- **Utopian structures & unfinished projects**

# NONUMENT!

PRESS



## Nonument is part of the MAPS Project.

**MAPS - Mapping & Archiving Public Spaces**, is a project devoted to a deeper understanding of architecture, public spaces and monuments of the 20th century. It deals with spaces that have gone through a process of transformation within which they have acquired a new meaning.

MAPS builds a **digital landscape with in-depth research on Nonuments**, including 3D scans and oral histories, collected within the community. MAPS develops an interdisciplinary methodology for preserving Nonuments and builds open-source tools for community engagement in the inclusive online database and map.

MAPS is a cooperation project, partly funded by Creative Europe. It joins partners from Slovenia, Bulgaria, Austria, Serbia, Cyprus and Czech Republic.



## Nonument artistic interventions

Nonument Group is an international initiative that seeks to honor hidden urban spaces that carry symbolic value for ordinary people. In opposition to bronze and stone, nonument [or no monument] installs new and emerging media forms in order to capture the transitory nature of everyday experiences.

The first Nonument action took place at the McKeldin fountain in downtown Baltimore, a Brutalist gem by architect Thomas Todd. The McKeldin square was a designated Free Speech Zone and the site where movements, such as Occupy Baltimore and Black Lives Matter took place. The fountain was demolished between October 2016 and January 2017.

**Nonument01::The McKeldin Fountain** was the first implementation of Nonument actions, conceived by Slovenian artists Neja Tomšič and Martin Bricelj Baraga from MoTA - Museum of Transitory Art in collaboration with local artists Lisa Moren and Jaimes Mayhew. Their actions resulted in the Nonument01 app, a virtual memorial to the demolished McKeldin fountain.

The Nonument01::The McKeldin Fountain was developed within Artecitya project, partly financed by Creative Europe. The app development was supported by the Saul Zaentz Innovation Fund in Film and Media at Johns Hopkins University.