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Universitas Under Pressure: An Architectural Conceptual History, ca. 1860-1900

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How did the specialization of academic knowledge that occurred over the course of the long nineteenth century play out in spatial terms? And, conversely, how did the spatial organization of universities and academies contribute to the increasing sense that the “universitas litterarum” was under pressure? The paper is an attempt to answer these questions for a decisive period for the emergence of the modern system of Wissenschaft. At the same time, it will explore the possibilities of an “architectural conceptual history” of academic knowledge.

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