

2018 ALICE DAVIS HITCHCOCK AWARD

Mrinalini Rajagopalan

*Building Histories: The Archival and Affective Lives of Five Monuments in Modern Delhi*

The University of Chicago Press, 2016

Mrinalini Rajagopalan's *Building Histories: The Archival and Affective Lives of Five Monuments in Modern Delhi* is original both in its method and in its content, producing new understandings of well-known monuments through a focused study of their long legacies in terms that are at once political, architectural, and sociological. It brings contemporary theory of the archive as a mechanism of collective cultural memory to the multi-layered history of key architectural sites in Delhi in the late colonial and post-colonial periods. The discussion ably commands this theoretical framework as a way of showing how the meaning of these sites was malleable and continuously evolving. The result is a book that merits close reading by scholars from a range of specialties.

2018 Award Committee:

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