

Post Occupied

Weathering and the lifecycle of building.

GERARD DAMIANI, AIA

‘As the costs of building continue to rise at an alarming rate and material resources become more and more scarce, how can what you build leave no trace or last indefinitely?’



Croft Lodge Studio

The ruin is protected from the elements within a new high performance outer envelope. This means that in most places there are two walls, two windows and two roofs, old and new. the work was undertaken to create a functioning studio with living accommodation that could be easily be changed in the future into a house with three bedrooms and two bathrooms.

Kate Darby Architect and David Connor Design

Background

In Sigfried Giedion's *Space, Time and Architecture*, he made a comparison between modern science and the concept of space-time replacing Newton's ideas of absolute time. However, what was missing was the subjective experience of time and its long-term effects on place, buildings and society. This ASO will go beyond how space and time affect the role of architectural sequence in real time to a question of how a building is understood throughout time. This studio is not a studio about the aesthetics of ruins, as ruins strip bare a building's meaning. Instead, we will speculate how can weathering engage the imagination?

In architecture, finishes and equipment are an end to a building's original construction, however, time and weathering affect and transform buildings leading to a double meaning. A building's original aspirations are literally and physically transformed through time. This ASO looks toward a work of architecture that is inextricably linked to its long-term physicality asking how it might play a more central role in architectural theory and environmental sustainability.



*Above
Croft Lodge Studio (interior from exterior)*

_Care

It's the objective of this ASO to consider how societal change affects the role of care at various levels of architectural engagement. Each student will address this term through all aspects of the studio process including how each presentation will be positioned.



Above

FRAC Dunkerque

"We never see the existing as a problem. We look with positive eyes because there is an opportunity of doing more with what we already have,"

Anne Lacaton

"We went to places where buildings would have been demolished and we met people, families who were attached to their housing, even if the situation was not the best. They were most often opposed to the demolition because they wished to stay in their neighborhood. It's a question of kindness."

Jean-Philippe Vassal

<https://www.lacatonvassal.com/>



Context

This ASO will look at how time affects our natural, societal and built environments. This studio will study the affects of weathering through a series of case studies. These studies will look at the variety of effects of weathering and the role of change. Each student will look at this term via art, architecture, technology, society, and culture looking for new formations and how the role of the built environment is representative of time and weathering.

Methodology

Project one: Weathering of four materials of your choice that will be documented throughout the semester.

Project two: Case studies: artistic, architectural, technological, societal, and cultural

Project three: Speculations on site, materials, systems, and programs

Project four: Application through architectural development

Required 1st reading: On Weathering: The Life of Buildings in Time by Mohsen Mostafavi and David Leatherbarrow (reading will be provided via Hunt Library)



Above

FRAC Dunkerque (interior)

Learning Outcomes

The design project will be a piece of architecture not as a static conclusion but as a product of physical and cultural weathering. The project will be represented not only as a finished project but also how it might address the long-term effect of cultural and physical weathering.