NEW & OLD: PRESERVATION & REUSE STRATEGIES

TIME/DATE: Fall 2016 | Storrs 268 | Thursdays | 2:00 – 2:45

PREMISE: Architecture and city building has always been a cumulative project, with each generation building on and adjacent to structures inherited from earlier periods. From the mid-twentieth century to the present, designers have been particularly conscious of the relationship between new and old in the built environment. Architects have employed a variety of design strategies for integrating contemporary architecture in historic contexts, including through adaptive reuse projects, additions to existing buildings, and infill structures in historic cities.

METHOD: The course combines lectures and discussions focused on relationships between old and new in architecture. Through readings and case studies spanning time, geography, and typology, students will begin to categorize these strategies through explorations of extensions, abstractions, adaptations, insertions, juxtapositions, transformations, fragmentations and other approaches. To test strategies that emerge from the discussions, at the end of the semester students will work in teams on conceptual design proposals for a Charlotte textile history museum in a local historic mill building.

OBJECTIVES: The objectives of this course are for students:
- to understand merits and limitations of various design strategies for intervening in historic contexts;
- to design, organize, and conduct research oriented investigations on architecture and to express ideas and arguments orally and in writing;
- to learn about Charlotte’s industrial and architectural history; and
- to apply ideas and strategies of old and new relationships in architecture through proposed interventions.

READINGS: A selection of readings are available as pdfs on the course moodle site. Key books the course will draw upon include:


ASSESSMENT: Students are assessed based on participation, oral presentations of case studies, written and graphic responses to course activities, and final intervention proposals.