

DEPARTAMENTO DE COMPOSICIÓN ARQUITECTÓNICA
ESCUELA TÉCNICA SUPERIOR DE ARQUITECTURA
UNIVERSIDAD POLITÉCNICA DE VALENCIA

Architectural stratigraphy. Analysis, experience and conservation of the traces of the history

PhD

Author: Camilla Mileto

Directors: Juan Francisco Noguera Giménez, Fernando Vegas López-Manzanares

ABSTRACT

This doctoral thesis strives to provide an approach to architectural stratigraphy from the point of view of architectural conservation. Stratified architecture conserves in its matter data about its history and the conversions it has undergone over the years. This data can be read, documented and analysed with the help of the methodology of construction stratigraphy. Nevertheless, the matter of the stratified architecture also conforms a place which conveys perceptive messages to any user who comes in contact with it. The conservation project usually cancels these messages partially or completely. This research is focused on the transmission mechanisms of these messages coming from the stratified place, based on perception, taste and sensitive knowledge, in order to propose a way to conserve them.

The text is organized in four sections. In the first part, stratified architecture is studied from the point of view of the analysis of traces of stratification as seen through the methodology of construction stratigraphy. This system is surveyed from its beginning to its present situation in crossed relationships with other fields like architectural conservation, construction and history.

In the second part, stratified architecture is analysed from the point of view of the place that the matter itself creates and the experience of the user in touch with the stratified architecture. It is a long process through diverse ideas and fields that progressively make it possible to define the concept of a stratified place, the physical properties that characterize it and the experience of the user in its presence.

In the third part, research of the feasibility of the conservation of the stratified place has been conducted on the basis of the knowledge acquired in the first two parts. The motto "to know in order to conserve" is the goal of this research, that is to say, get to know the transmission mechanisms of the place in order to keep them alive in the restored building.

The fourth part includes the final conclusions and a general bibliography. Two annexes have been added at the end. The first annex comprises eight cases of application of this methodology of construction stratigraphy, all of them carried out by the author, which have been the testing-ground for this research. The second annex presents an example of the application of those criteria researched here and developed in the conservation project of a stratified place.