Sandra Petkute

Recycled Materials in Architecture. History of use, current projects and thoughts on future improvement

Project Report

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Preface

As a part of Architectural Technology and Construction Management (ATCM) education in order to gain additional knowledge relevant to taught modules at University College of Northern Denmark I am required to provide a research paper for the final 7th semester of a topic of my choice limited by ATCM boundaries only.

Since the first elective project in 3rd semester I started to develop my interest in sustainability ideas in building industry from different perspectives. Therefore, I was already putting my effort in producing the research papers on the following topics: "Passive House Renovation into Active House", "Acoustics. Materials, Calculations and Design", "Light in Architecture". Additionally, I strongly believe, that thinking and creating more sources of information related to sustainable ideas is essential considering the current state of Earth's further capabilities to provide human society with natural sources which are used for countless industries, including building industry.

Furthermore, during my 6th semester internship experience, which took place in The Hague, Netherlands, where I had a possibility to work at architectural studio mainly focused on renovation projects made me to realize the importance of existing refurbishment power. However, nowadays the majority of topics relevant to renovations talks about actual building renewing, but myself I got an interest of making a research and exploring what's happening on the current building industry's market when the topic redirects to the idea of designing new projects while incorporating already used materials from other projects or objects.

Combination of both reasons, mentioned in paragraphs above, helped to gain the understanding the necessity of consolidating the ideas of re-used materials in new architecture with the background of how does that affect the basic construction solutions as well as design appearance giving an overall sustainable approach based project.