Borderline(s) Investigation #12 SEMINAR WEEK

Prof. Alexandre Theriot

UNITED KINGDOM

20 - 26 October 2024 Category C - Max. 14 students Incl. accomodation, visits, inland transport & one dinner Excl. transport to London

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Before it is completed, a building is a collection of drawings, plans and written documents. Its materiality is put down on paper, archived in files or on shelves. Before finding its final form, the project is as much a book as a palimpsest.

Every project - whether it ends up being built or not - takes on its strength and gain its relevance through an accumulation of drawings and representations at different scales. The sketch and the finished building 'say' the same thing, but say it better and better through the different phases of the project.

The denser the archive, the more singular its beauty. It becomes a source of new potentials. Neighbourhoods create new connections. It is not so much the objects that give value as the links they (re) create between them.

With this new Seminar Week series, we want to (re)experience the manifest projects of our heroes. We will begin our explorations with a comparative study of two simultaneously built projects by Foster + Partners, the Faber Willis & Dumas building in Ipswich and the Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts in Norwich.

We will visit these two works to extract photographic records, 3d scans and so on. At the same time we will delve into Norman Foster's archives to assess the specific constructive field of each of these projects, from their sketches to their construction. The material collected and produced in this way will form the raw substance for a publication to be produced in the following year.

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Autum Semester 2024 - ETH Zürich, D-ARCH, IEA