

Sustainable Building Conservation: a new trend in architectural education

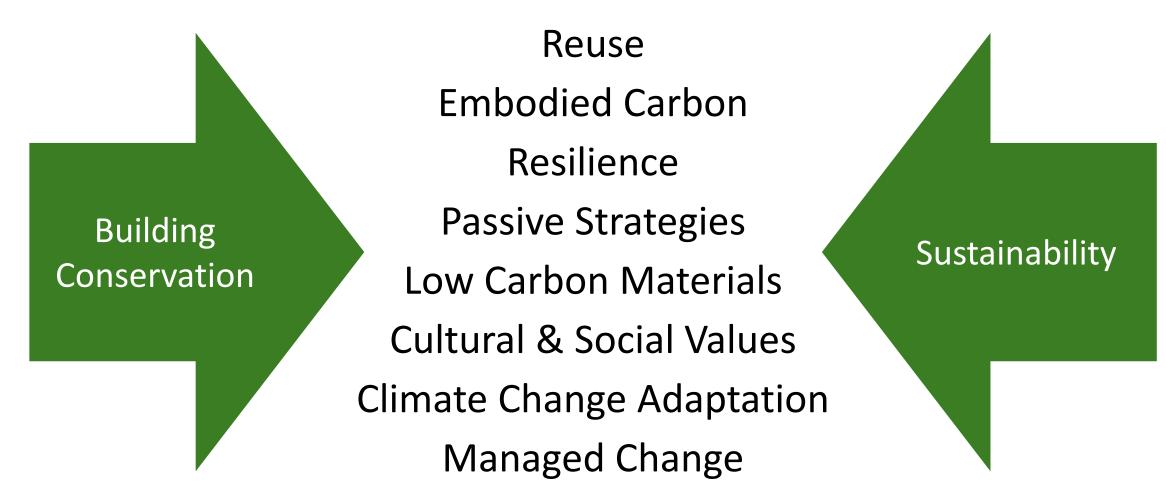
Dr Chris Whitman

Senior Lecturer
Welsh School of Architecture, Cardiff University
WhitmanCJ@Cardiff.ac.uk



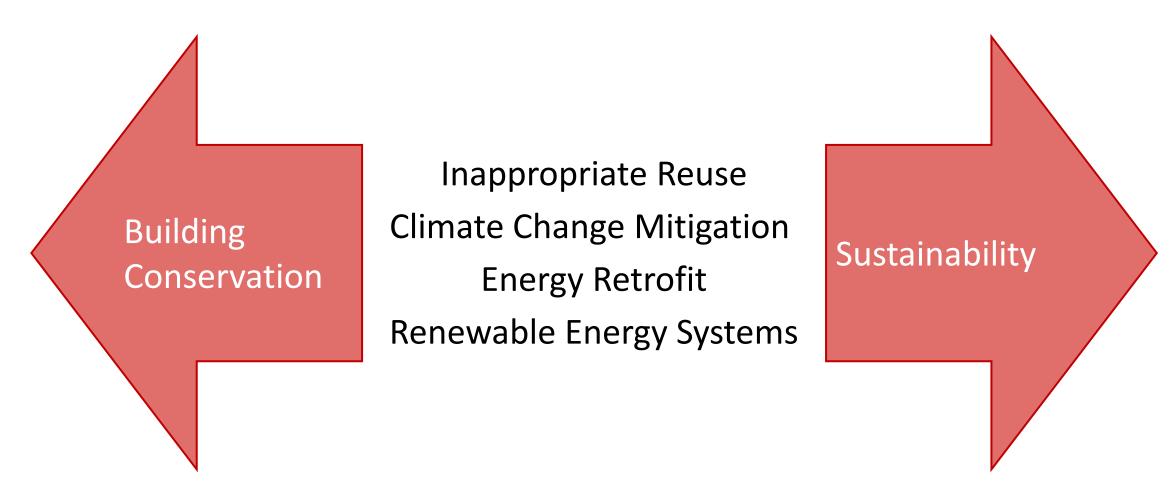






Many any aspects where Building Conservation and Sustainability share common aims.





However, there are other aspects where there are barriers or conflicts.



In May 2012 Prof Oriel Prizeman was asked by the Welsh School of Architecture to design an MSc in Building Conservation.

She therefore decided to develop a course that taught the necessary skills to address both the synergies of conservation and sustainability and the challenges.

MSc Sustainable Building Conservation, accredited by the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC) and approved by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) in February 2013. The course began in September 2013.

The course is unique in emphasising sustainability within the historic context: identified internationally by ICOMOS as the critical future direction of conservation education.

It focuses new career paths for experienced professionals across the sector as well as new graduates seeking a defined expertise.



Prof Oriel Prizeman
Course Founder and Director



Course Structure and Modules

Stage 1 Taught	The Conservator's Role	20cr	Part-time Year 1	Full-time Year 1
	Tools of Interpretation	20cr		
	Energy Use in Historic Buildings	20 cr		
	Case Studies and Regional Work	40cr	Part-time Year 2	
	Design Tools: Methods of Repair	20cr		
Stage 1 Exam board			ne Y	
Stage 2	Dissertation	60cr	ear 2	

Modules ART501, ART502 and ART505 are offered as optional modules for MA in Architectural Design





The Conservator's Role Module Leader- Prof Oriel Prizeman

Comparative philosophies of conservation

History and hierarchy of the Conservation Movement,

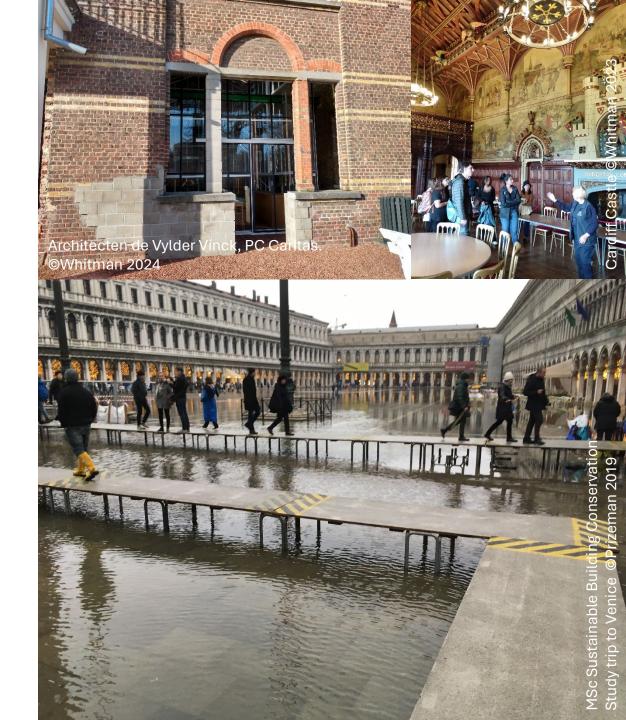
Global and Local frameworks

Ethics and dilemmas of conservation

Economic dilemmas: World heritage people buildings, tourism

Marketing Heritage: Proving the value of identity

Climate Change: Our greatest challenge





Tools of Interpretation Module Leader- Darren McLean

Researching historic buildings

Techniques of recording and measurement

Identifying the vernacular, patterns and trends vs universal standards

Assessing Condition

Damp, rot, decay: Breathability, membranes and repair

Technical dilemmas: Consultation and finding specialists.



Condition survey, Bute Station, Cardiff. @Tsetine, E. 2017





Design Tools: Methods of Repair Module Leader- Darren McLean

Repair techniques – philosophy, practice and impact

Metalwork

Historic glazing

Stone conservation

Timber repair

Structural conservation

Lime and the lime cycle





Energy Use in Historic Buildings Module Leader- Dr Chris Whitman

Buildings and climate

Assessing and monitoring performance

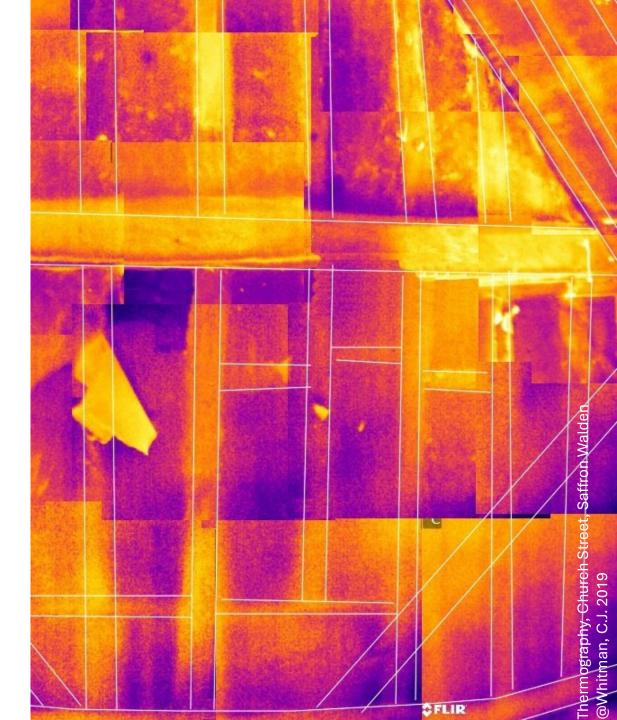
Improving performance

Quantitative and qualitative methods to justify retrofit

Renewable energies in the historic built environment

Life cycle assessment and embodied carbon

Services in historic buildings



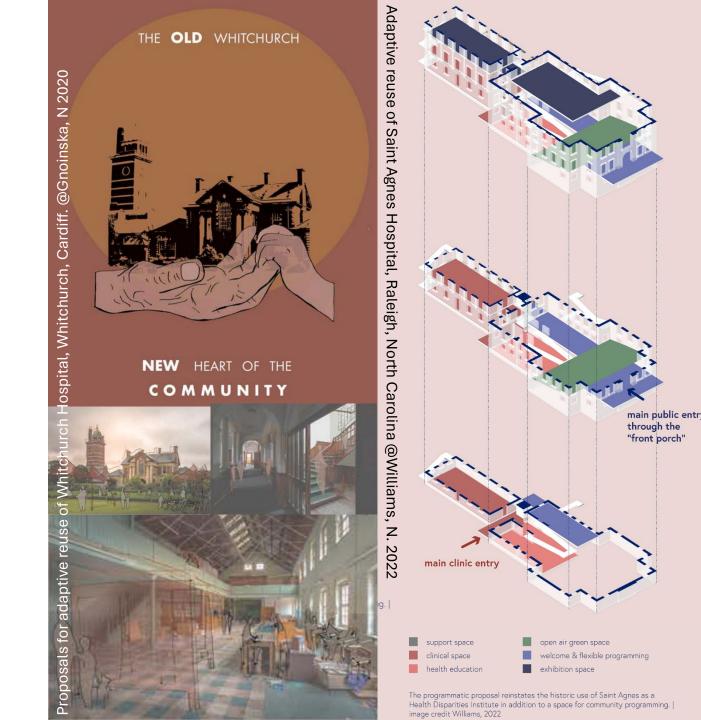


Case Studies and Regional Work Module Leader- Prof Oriel Prizeman

Regional issues

Design module

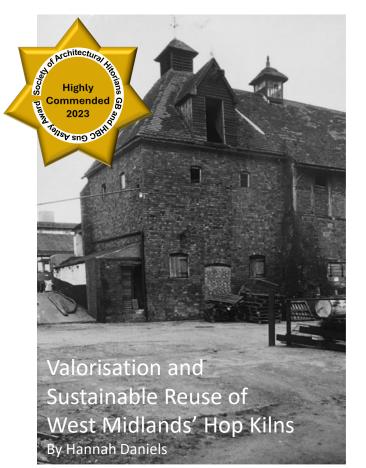
Propose and defend a design intervention within an historic context

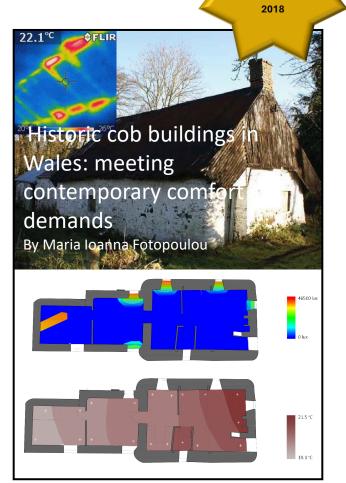


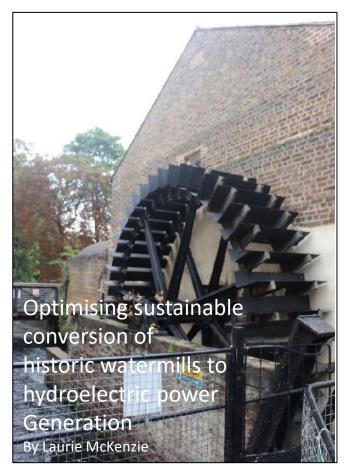


Dissertation Module Leader- Dr Chris Whitman

Individual research on a topic of the students' choice













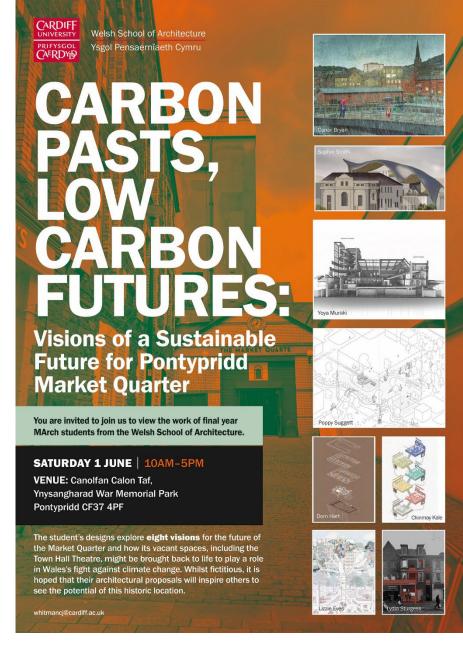
Word cloud from free-text requests from MArch (4th year) undergraduate students requests for final year design thesis unit topics for academic year 2020/21.





MArch2 Design Unit – Carbon Pasts, Low Carbon Futures 2021/22 & 2022/23











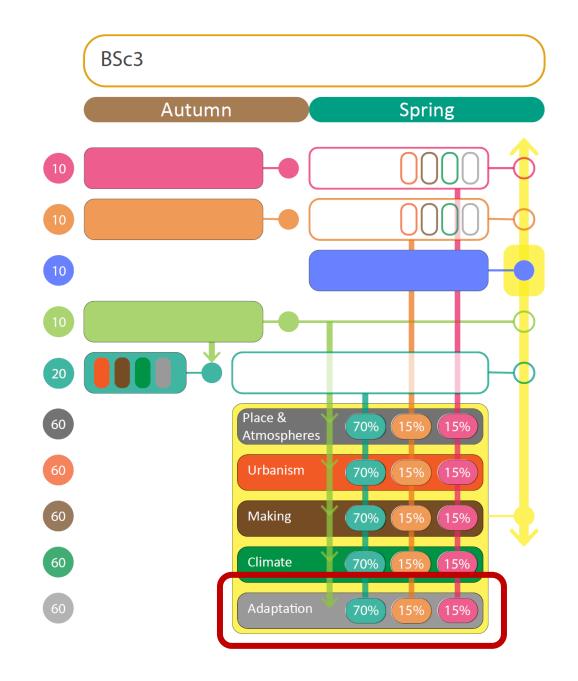




MArch2 Design Unit – Carbon Pasts, Low Carbon Futures 2023/24

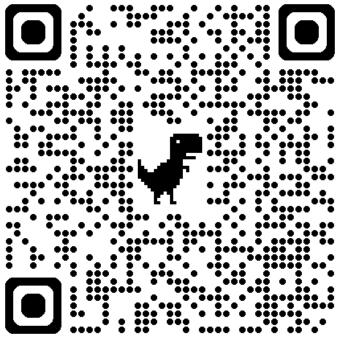


Our BSc Architecture Undergraduate course has just completed a comprehensive redesign which will see the introduction of thematic studio in 3rd year, including "Adaptation" focusing on the sustainable reuse of existing buildings and making our built environment resilient to climate change. This will be supported with related electives in 1st & 2nd year. The programme will launch in September 2025.





Thank You



For more information on the MSc Sustainable Building Conservation

Dr Chris Whitman

Senior Lecturer Welsh School of Architecture, Cardiff University WhitmanCJ@Cardiff.ac.uk



