

Non-disciplinary Tools in Architecture I: The Experimentality of Found Objects

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Abstract:

Non-disciplinary tools that extend the traditional boundaries of architectural practice provide a strong foundation for experimental design practices that foster creativity and innovation. With this understanding, this study focuses on found objects as a non-disciplinary tool, investigating their influence on the formation of architectural design processes and outputs. Given that the effects of non-disciplinary tools on architectural practice are too complex and context-sensitive to be measured solely through quantitative data, this study employs qualitative analysis methods.

Structured in three sections, the first part of the study explains the experimental use of found objects in design through theoretical analysis. In the second part, the use of found objects in the architectural context is examined through comparative case analysis of different architects' works within thematic frameworks. These thematic frameworks, derived from the concepts established in theoretical analysis, include form-making, program generation, structural innovation, and social content creation. In the third part, experimental design contexts arising from the use of found objects and their interrelations are discussed, and practical suggestions for their use in design practice are developed through a critical synthesis method, culminating in a conceptual framework.

The research provides an innovative perspective on the transformative impact of non-disciplinary tools in architectural practice and education. It develops a theoretical understanding of the experimental use of found objects in design processes and offers practical suggestions to promote their use as sources of creativity and innovation in architectural practice.