

Program

This diploma thesis is a discussion of preservation practices, cultural heritage values, and the possible transformation of a listed building. The case is the Laboratory building at Ullevål Hospital in Oslo.

The topics and the case are explored through seven experiments. The first experiment is a test of the current listing criteria. The next six experiments identify other values worthy of preservation and suggest alternative criteria for listing. Each value leads to different preservation strategies and consequently different possibilities for transformation. The topics are researched through literature, original drawings, archival material and in conversation with one of the architects of the building, and the work is conducted through drawing, photo collages and model work. In a final collage model these six experiments are combined, forming the final question of whether it is possible to preserve many values at once, or if preservation and transformation of preserved buildings is an exercise in curation and compromises.

The aim of the project has been to acquire knowledge in the field of preservation and to rediscover the Laboratory building as a monument of cultural heritage.