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Ejdersted Haubarg

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Attuned Making – *Ejdersted Haubarg*

The project for (re)making the Haubarg aims at investigating the historic Ejdersted Haubarg, located at the Danish Open Air Museum, as inspiration for contemporary architectural design. It is asked how knowledge embodied in crafts tradition and local vernacular may inform a contemporary design practise and potentially contribute to the development of a (more) sustainable building culture. The project understands sustainable building culture as the meaningful synthesis of technical properties, cultural-historical qualities and experiential effects – in careful consideration of the planetary boundaries. The Ejdersted Haubarg and the (re)making of the Haubarg – understood in and of itself as a production of authentic architectural knowledge – are described and analysed as seen through the lens of cultural-historical qualities, experiential effects and technical properties – in an overall sustainable perspective.

The historic Ejdersted Haubarg, built in 1651, was located in the tidal marshland of the Eidersted province on a reclaimed area protected from the sea by dikes. The landscape was structured by a large patchwork of dams, divided by drainage canals, sluices and ponds. To further protect the buildings against floods and potential breaches of the dike, the farmhouse itself was built on a warf, a large, humanmade mound. The farmhouse, resistant to the forces of nature, is characterised by a single large roof supported by four tall wooden posts, called the *vierkant*, surrounded by the living quarters, stables and threshing floor.

From a distance, the building is experienced as a large lumpy volume, that rests on a low, heavy masonry wall on the top of the mound. Entering through a low entrance door, the interior space is dark and one feels the uneven brick floor underneath one's feet. As your eyes adjust to the darkness, an unexpected tall space, lit only by a single opening at the ridge of the roof, is revealed and a large timber structure with diagonal braces becomes visible. A double wall separating the living quarters from the barn contains alcoves with sliding doors that are articulated by delicate profiles.

In the (re)making of the Haubarg, the main structure comprises 3 modules of eight 5x5" posts in total, leaving a rectangular floor-plan. The 4x5" roof rafters, supported by the timber frame, are clad with vertical wooden boards, that serve as a contemporary reference to the historic building's distinctive thatched roof. All joints, including nails and fastenings, are made entirely out of wood, and the structure is joined together without the use of modern steel fastenings or nails. Wood protection by design details, such as structural timber raised above ground level and overhanging roofs that limit the exposure to wetting and direct sunlight, ensure that the timber components can last longer. An entrance, an alcove and a skylight constitute re-interpretations of spatial situations as identified in the historic farmhouse.

The (re)making of the Haubarg has thus been extensively informed by crafts tradition and local vernacular as manifested in the historic Ejdersted Haubarg, both in terms of cultural-historical qualities, experiential effects and technical properties. All three aspects are characterised by *communicating something*, both regarding the relation to the landscape and the spatial character as well as the physical material, inviting visitors to reflect on how they dwell.

Fig.1: Rothelau Farmhouse, 1651.
Andersen NB, Julebæk VB.



Fig.2: Rothelau Farmhouse, 1651.
Andersen NB, Julebæk VB.

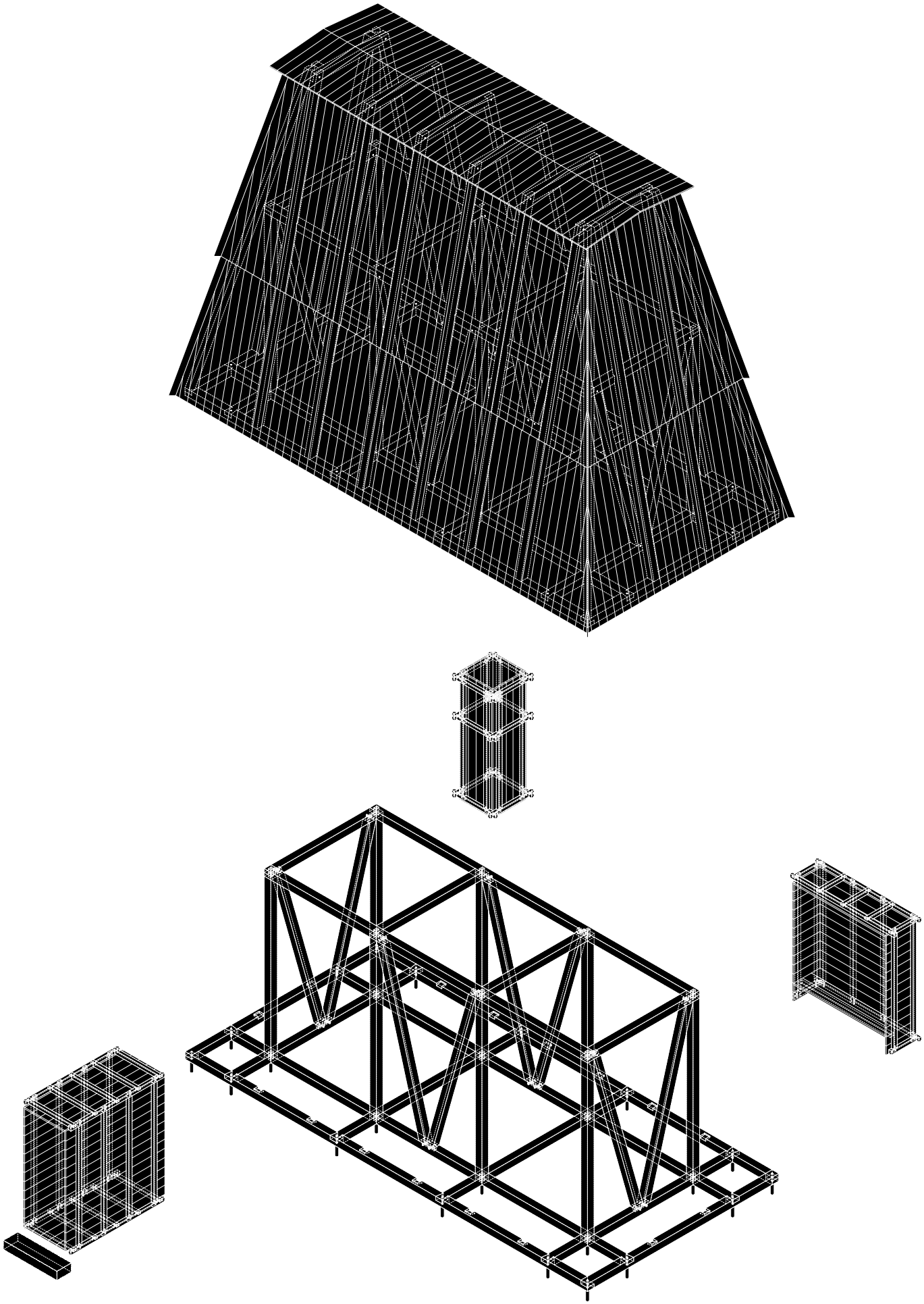

Fig.3: (Re)making of Haubarg, 2022.
Andersen NB, Julebæk VB.



Fig.4: (Re)making of Haubarg, 2022.
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Fig.5: (Re)making of Haubarg, 2022.
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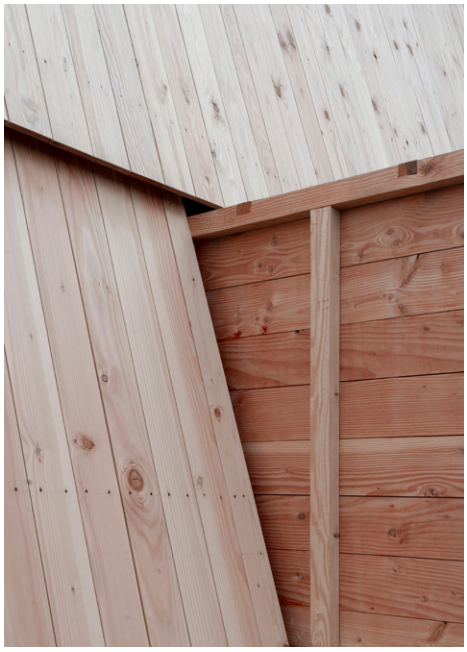

Fig.6: (Re)making of Haubarg, 2022.
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