

Aarhus School of Architecture // Design School Kolding // Royal Danish Academy

(Re)making the Haubarg

Andersen, Nicolai Bo; Julebæk, Victor Boye

Published in:

Design for Rethinking Resources

Publication date:

2023

Document Version:

Early version, also known as pre-print

[Link to publication](#)

Citation for pulished version (APA):

Andersen, N. B., & Julebæk, V. B. (2023). (Re)making the Haubarg: Towards Sustainable Dwelling on a Bounded Earth. In M. Ramsgaard Thomsen, C. Ratti, & M. Tamke (Eds.), *Design for Rethinking Resources: Proceedings of the UIA World Congress of Architects Copenhagen 2023* (pp. 249-262). <http://papers.uia2023cph.org/P2/3019.pdf>

General rights

Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

- Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
- You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
- You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal ?

Take down policy

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.



Mette Ramsgaard Thomsen
Carlo Ratti
Martin Tamke *Editors*

Design for Rethinking Resources

Proceedings of the UIA World Congress
of Architects Copenhagen 2023

(Re)Making The Haubarg $\frac{1}{2}$ Towards Sustainable Dwelling On A Bounded Earth

Nicolai Bo Andersen | Victor Julebæk

Contact author affiliation: Royal Danish Academy $\frac{1}{2}$ Architecture

PREPRINT // OPEN ACCESS



(Re)making the Haubarg—Towards Sustainable Dwelling on a Bounded Earth

Nicolai Bo Andersen and Victor Julebæk

Keywords

Materials · Tectonics · Architecture · Aesthetics · Sustainability

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Architecture may be understood as a material practice where resources extracted from nature are deployed in a building system and cultivated to make a dwelling. However, on a bounded planet, material resources are limited (Daly, 2007) and the safe operating space of numerous planetary boundaries are long exceeded (Rockström et al., 2009; Steffen et al., 2015; Raworth, 2012; 2018). Accounting for 36% of European CO₂ emissions and 40% of the total European energy consumption (European Commission, 2021), the construction industry constitutes a

major part of the problem and in consequence – if any hope of meeting the Paris Agreement (UN FCCC, 2015) should be kept alive – architectural design processes must be fundamentally revised. Wood has been used as building material in vernacular architecture around the world for thousands of years. The material may be considered a renewable resource and potentially abundant, carbon neutral and recyclable and as such the only widely used building material that is sustainable when coming from truly sustainable forestry. As such, enhancing carbon uptake and storage through bio-based building materials in construction may be one effective mitigation strategy (IPCC, 2022). However, the environmental benefits of using timber are not straightforward (Ramage et al., 2017; Dooley et al., 2018) just as traditional knowledge of how to design with wood seems inadequate in contemporary architectural design. It seems as if contemporary sustainable design strategies are less concerned with the qualitative potential of wood, just as it seems as if the work of architecture is regarded a conceptual exercise, detached from tectonic, cultural-historic or contextual considerations. As such, it seems necessary to rethink the qualitative potential of wood in contemporary architectural design practice aiming at (more) sustainable building culture(s).

_30
_31
_32
_33
_34
_35
_36
_37
_38
_39
_40
_41
_42
_43
_44
_45
_46
_47
_48
_49
_50
_51
_52
_53
_54
_55
_56
_57

AQ1

N. B. Andersen (✉)
Royal Danish Academy—Architecture,
Copenhagen, Denmark
e-mail: nande@kglakademi.dk

V. Julebæk
Centre for Sustainable Building Culture, Royal
Danish Academy—Architecture, Copenhagen,
Denmark



1.2 Research Question

This paper understands sustainable building culture as the meaningful synthesis of technical properties, cultural-historical qualities, and experiential effects – in careful consideration of the planetary boundaries. Through the (re)making of the Haubarg at the Danish Open Air Museum, this paper aims at investigating the topic of Rethinking Resources, supplementing and qualifying the qualitative potential of wood as a sustainable building material as informed by traditional building culture – seen in a holistic perspective. It is asked how knowledge embodied in crafts tradition and local vernacular (with specific focus on timber construction) may inform a contemporary design practice and inspire the development of (more) sustainable building culture(s). The (re)making of the Haubarg – understood in and of itself as a production of authentic architectural knowledge – is considered an empirical finding that is described and analysed seen through a phenomenological-hermeneutic lens. The significance of the results is discussed in relation to the overall question of sustainable building culture. It is argued that technical properties, cultural-historical qualities as well as experiential effects must be taken into consideration when building with wood. Conveying architectural meaning as *dwelling*, the (re)making of the Haubarg may thus inspire a renewed sustainable building culture in careful consideration of the biophysically bounded Earth.

2 2 Materials and Methods

The research method in this paper is a combined strategy (Groat and Wang, 2013), involving a qualitative, in-depth analysis of an existing building and the design and construction of an experimental timber structure. The analysis of the existing building is seen from the perspectives of technical properties, cultural-historical qualities and, experiential effects, all following a phenomenological-hermeneutic approach

aiming to identify architectural motifs that may point towards new architectural interventions.

The phenomenological method (Andersen, 2018) comprises five stages: 1) experiencing an architectural phenomenon; 2) investigating the architectural phenomenon; 3) hermeneutical reflection; 4) describing the architectural phenomenon and 5) architectural phenomenological re-presentation. The phenomenological descriptions developed in the article, build on the framework detailed by the phenomenological method. The method is used as a way of thinking the world through experience, aiming at articulating, structuring, operationalizing, and presenting experienced architectural phenomena in text and drawing. The method is based on the phenomenological-hermeneutic philosophy as developed by Edmund Husserl, Martin Heidegger, and Maurice Merleau-Ponty and the phenomenology of practice as described by Max van Manen in combination with the concept of embodied communication as developed in the new phenomenology by Hermann Schmitz (2014; 2016; 2019).

It is important to underline, that a purely qualitative approach does not in itself lead to a tangible and measurable sustainable building culture. As pointed out by ICOMOS (2019), however, climate science can tell us that adaptation and mitigation are necessary, but it cannot tell us what adaptation options are most workable within any given human system. Balancing economic, social, and environmental concerns, the UN Rio Conference on Environment and Development highlights the need for qualitative perspectives in a future sustainable development as does the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In this perspective, cultural heritage may, according to ICOMOS, be considered “[...] a source of creativity and inspiration for adaptation and mitigation actions that are responses to the findings of climate science.” (ICOMOS, 2019, p. 14). In continuation, this paper aims at inspiring future sustainable building culture(s) based on the findings of climate science, in this case through pointing at the need to rethink the use of wood in an ar-



chitectural design practice – all seen in a holistic perspective. As such, the aim is not to exclude, but rather to supplement and qualify contemporary discussions on the climate crises, including the question of carbon footprint.

The design of the experimental timber structure is considered a “reflective practice” (Schön, 1986; 2001) involving the continuous analysis and action performed in working with a complex and/or unique problem – in this case the design of an experimental timber structure as informed by an existing building. It concerns the architect’s experience, the understanding of the specific situation and a reflection on the presumed outcome. A “reflective practice” comprises “knowing-in-action”, the general, practical knowledge we exhibit in our intelligent, physical performance; “reflection-in-action” in which experience, knowledge, and intuition works in exchange with the action itself and “reflection on reflection-in-action”, which is the retrospective analysis, which again indirectly may influence a future action (Schön, 1986; 2001).

First, characteristic motives from the historic Ejdersted Farmhouse, originally called *Rothelau* and today located at the Danish Open Air Museum, have been identified, described, and organised (fig. 1, 2). Aiming to get a better understanding of a given architectural phenomenon, the motives relate to technical properties, cultural-historical qualities, and experiential effects. Second, selected motives have informed an architectural design (fig. 3, 4, 5), constituting a contemporary re-interpretation of the traditional marsh Farmhouse. Through a “reflective dialogue with the situation” in a larger “network of choice”, this “reflective practice” investigates the different so called “Normative/Descriptive Design Domains” (Schön, 2001), in this case related to technical properties, cultural-historical qualities, and experiential effects. The aim of the architectural design has been to make a new architectural entity, clearly relating to the motifs identified in the historic building, yet unmistakably autonomous.

Third, the experimental timber structure has been built by students at The Royal Danish

Academy – Cultural Heritage, Transformation, and Conservation as part of the master program curriculum (fig. 6). The Haubarg has been described and documented photographically (fig. 3, 4) and the material – which in itself may be understood as authentic architectural knowledge – is considered empirical findings that have been described and analysed as a “reflection on reflection-in-action” (Schön, 1986; 2001). Finally, the significance of the results of the (re)making of the Haubarg are discussed in relation to the overall research question regarding the development of (more) sustainable building culture(s) and a conclusion is made.

3 3 Results and Analysis

3.1 Cultural-Historical Qualities

The historic Rothelau Farmhouse was originally located in the tidal marshland of the Ejdersted 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 dwelling mound. Built in 1651, the Rothelau Farmhouse was one of the oldest in Ejdersted (Pedersen, 2004, p.44). The building 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. Being used for storing hay during the winter, the central square gave name to the building typology *haubarg* [German *Heu zu barga*].

The typology presumably came to Ejdersted from Holland in the 16th century and the building typology gradually became considered the culturally significant way to build (Pedersen, 2004, p.43). The owners of the Rothelau Farmhouse belonged to the elite of the Ejdersted population that was divided into four social groups: the large landowners, the smaller milk farmers, the workers, and the artisans (Pedersen, 2004, p.27). Being the largest contributors to



Fig. 1 Rothelau Farmhouse, 1651. Photo: The Authors

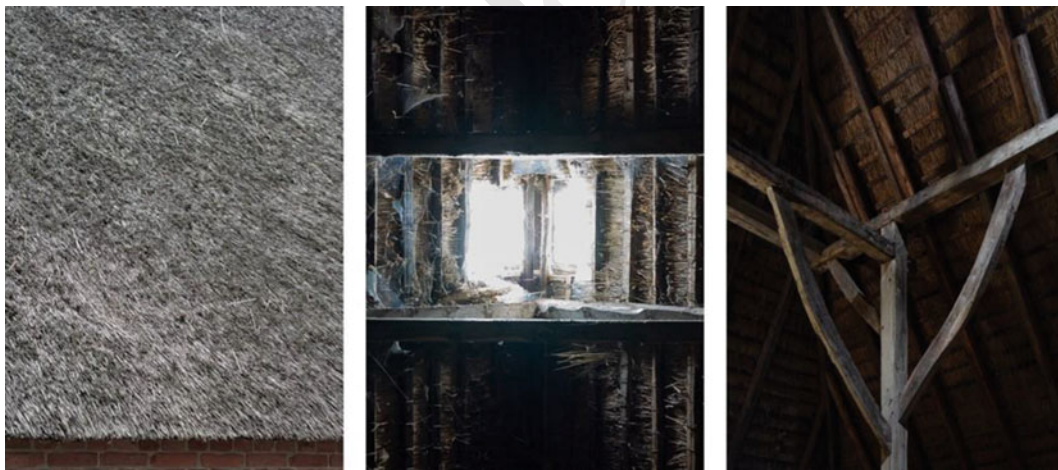


Fig. 2 Rothelau Farmhouse, 1651. Photo: The Authors

243 establishing and maintaining dikes, the largest
244 landowners had control of the administration of
245 the landscape. As such, it is impossible to
246 imagine the Rothelau Farmhouse without both its
247 geographic and administrative landscape

(Petersen, 2004). The Rothelau Farmhouse –
today located at the Danish Open Air Museum –
thus conveys the historically created material,
political, and economic values, just as dikes,
canals, and buildings may be understood as

248
249
250
251
252



Fig. 3 Haubarg, 2022.
Photo: Lars Rolfsted
Mortensen



B & W IN PRINT

253 scenes of cultural meaning (Petersen, 2004,
254 p.82).

255 According to Tim Ingold, landscape may be
256 understood as a temporal process that is contin-
257 uously transformed by activities, i.e., “perpetu-
258 ally under construc- tion,” always “work in
259 progress” (Ingold, 1993, p.162). Landscape not
260 only com- prises related elements and features,
261 but likewise related activities or “tasks,” that are
262 understood as constitutive acts of “dwelling”
263 (Ingold, 1993, p.158). To Ingold, “landscape” is
264 “continuously going on,” in the sense that hills,
265 valleys, paths, tracks, trees, crops, buildings, and

266 people are understood as engaged in mutual
267 “resonant” relations. As such, the materials,
268 practices as well as the presence and character of
269 landscape may be understood in a “dwelling
270 perspective,” suggesting agency of the elements
271 that constitute “landscape” through rhythmic
272 interrelations (Ingold, 1993, p.160–164).

273 As with the relationship between the Rothelau
274 Farmhouse and its geographic and administrative
275 landscape, this perspective entails moving
276 beyond a division of “inner and outer worlds,”
277 “mind and matter,” “meaning and substance”
278 (Ingold, 1993, p.154). Dwelling is, according to

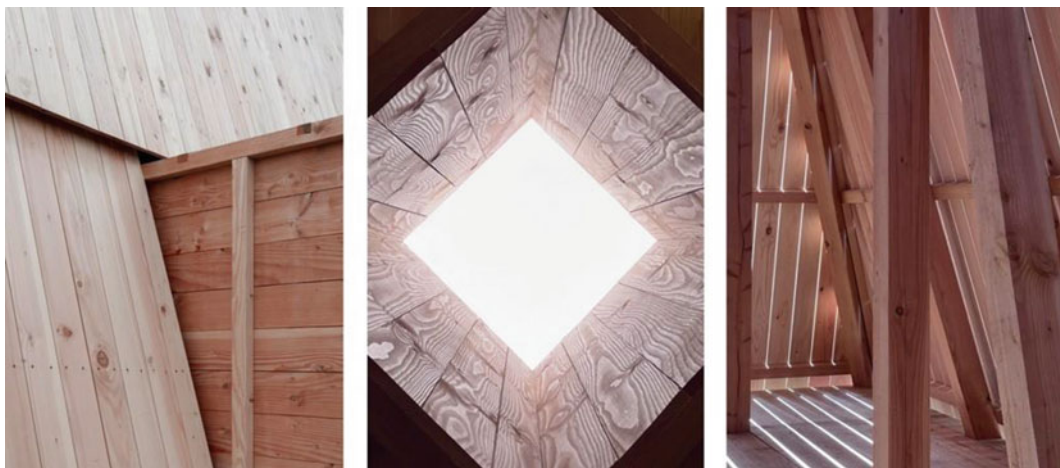


Fig. 4 Haubarg, 2022. Photo: The Authors

279 Ingold, “with us, not against us” as “land-
280 scape” is understood as the lived involvement in a
281 temporal world (Ingold, 1993, p.154). In this
282 perspective, forms of buildings, landscapes and
283 relations do not arise from nowhere, but “grow
284 from the mutual involvement of people and
285 materi- als” in an interweaving, that may soften a
286 distinction between “artefacts and living things”
287 (Ingold, 2000, p 339, 347). With functional,
288 cultural, and historic signifi- cance and consid-
289 ered as a physical manifestation of lived
290 involvement in a tem- poral world as dwelling,
291 the (re)making of the Haubarg may thus be
292 understood as a mean of *communication* through
293 which cultural-historic values and meanings are
294 conveyed.

295 3.2 Experiential Effects

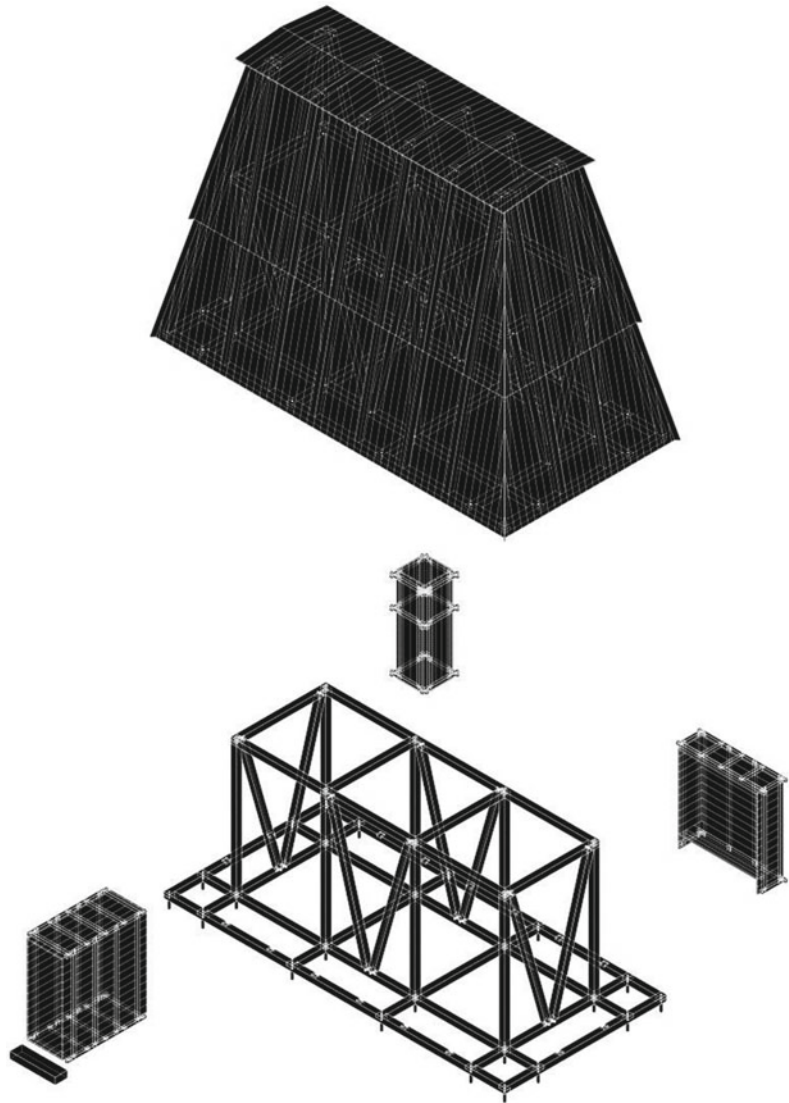
296 From a distance, the Rothelau Farmhouse is
297 characterised by a large, hipped roof, that sits on
298 low, heavy set masonry walls elevated on a
299 dwelling mound. The thatched roof expresses a
300 softness in character, while also producing
301 articulated edges with defined shadows at the
302 footings. Entering through a low opening under
303 the eaves, the interior space is dark, and one feels
304 the uneven brick floor under- neath one’s feet. As
305 one’s eyes adjust to the dim raking light, an

unexpected tall space, lit only by a single open-
ing at the ridge of the roof is revealed. Entering
this central space, a large loadbearing structure of
squared timber posts becomes visi- ble. The
structure is experienced as an upright, steady
support to the tent like drape of the roof and
produces an enclosure around which the walls
are both per- meable and closed. Towards the
living quarters, a double wall containing alcoves
separates the residential spaces from the barn. On
one side, the alcoves are sombre with a clear
structural layering. On the other side, they are
more elaborate, fin- ished in planed timber with
painted sliding doors that are articulated by deli-
cate profiles that catch the light.

From a distance, the (re)made Haubarg is
characterised by a steep hipped timber roof, that
extends to just above the ground, elevated on a
dwelling mound. The roof is made of overlap-
ping planed wood boards, that produce folds and
tucks with distinct shadows, adding depth to the
sharp figure. Entering through a low opening that
protrudes outward above the terrain, the interior
space is warm, and one feels how the structure
lightly gives way under one’s feet. As one’s eyes
ad- just to the flickering light coming through the
loose-fit cladding, an unexpected tall space,
articulated by a single pointed aperture at the
ridge of the roof, is re- vealed. The space is made
up from a clearly layered load bearing structure

306
307
308
309
310
311
312
313
314
315
316
317
318
319
320
321
322
323
324
325
326
327
328
329
330
331
332
333
334
335

Fig. 5 Haubarg, 2022.
Photo: The Authors



336 of rough sawn squared timbers. The upright,
337 steady structure supports an inclined roof struc-
338 ture, in between which the entrance, the aperture
339 and an alcove are lo- cated. Sitting down in the
340 alcove, the delicate planed timber of the wooden
341 lining feels soft to the touch, providing pause
342 from the wealth of structural elements.

343 As the above phenomenological descriptions
344 point out, the seemingly contradic- tory “ways of
345 working” (Leatherbarrow, 2009) at play in the
346 Rothelau Farmhouse – the settled and closed
347 character of the building in relation to the open

348 march landscape, the stability and upright artic-
349 ulation of the timber structure against the
350 enveloping drape of the roof, the opposition of
351 ceiling heights, material finishes, sheen, mat-
352 tress, softness, and sharpness of light – all con-
353 tribute to the production of distinct bodily felt
354 experiences which are re-interpreted in the
355 Haubarg. To Her- mann Schmitz, the body is
356 conceived as the basis for human experience and
357 philosophy defined as one’s contemplation of
358 how one finds oneself in one’s sur- roundings
359 (Schmitz, 2014, p.9). To Schmitz, *dwelling* is



Fig. 6 Haubarg construction process, 2022. Photo: The Authors

360 understood as the *cultivation* of emotions in an
361 enclosed space that may take place through the
362 articulation of *suggestions of movement* and
363 *synesthetic characters* which may be sensed on
364 both one's own felt body and perceived in fig-
365 ures, whether static or in motion (Schmitz, 2016).

366 Suggestions of movement are signs of immi-
367 nent movement, without actual move- ment, or
368 gestures that go beyond the limit of movement,
369 such as “the gait of a per- son;” “the space
370 spanned by the rhythmic and tonal movement
371 suggestions of the sound, such as piercing noise,
372 diminishing echo, rising and falling, pressing and
373 circling;” or the broadening and narrowing of
374 space (Schmitz, 2012, p.4, 2). *Syn- esthetic*
375 *characters* are qualities “which run through all
376 specific senses and often, but not always, bear the
377 names of specific sensory qualities,” (Schmitz,
378 2016, p.5) such as “the sharp, bright, gentle,
379 pointed, hard, soft, warm, cold, heavy, compact,
380 delicate, dense, smooth, the roughness of col-
381 ours, sounds, smells, sound and si- lence,
382 bouncing and trailing gait, joy, zeal, melancholy,
383 freshness, and fatigue” (Schmitz, 2014, p.31).

384 In an architectural perspective, *embodied*
385 *communication* may lead to “the for- mation of
386 atmospheres of emotion” and to the “tuning of
387 the occupants and/or vis- itors into these atmo-
388 spheres” (Schmitz, 2016, p.15). As such, things,
389 materials, and spaces may become bearers of

atmospheres of emotion so “that the person can
attune to them in harmony with his *corporeal*
mood” (Schmitz, 2016, p.14). This includes the
experienced material qualities of e.g., the walls,
the ceiling, and the floor, as well as the furnish-
ing and control of incoming light, temperature,
and sounds. In this perspective, the Haubarg may
be understood as a new interpreta- tion of a
bodily experienced spatial sequence enacted
between the closed and open, dark and light,
matte and sharp that may be considered a mean
of embodied *communication* as atmospheres
through which experienced architectural meaning
as dwelling may be conveyed.

3.3 Technical Properties

In the traditional Haubarg post-and-beam typol-
ogy, the timber structure com- prises four,
sometimes six or even eight posts joined by
longitudinal and trans- verse beams and sta-
bilised by diagonal bracing, all structural ele-
ments joined with traditional wooden joints.
Independent from the outer brick walls, the
timber frame is resistant to the forces of nature,
especially storm surges, just as it is protected
from the weathering effects of the environment.
The (re)making of the Haubarg is executed
entirely in locally sourced Douglas fir. The

390
391
392
393
394
395
396
397
398
399
400
401
402
403
404
405
406
407
408
409
410
411
412
413
414
415
416



417 timber was pro- vided by *Bondeskovgaard*, a 3rd
418 generation sawmill established in 1900 which is
419 located about 50 km from the building site. The
420 sawmill combines inherited knowledge of timber
421 with the use of modern machinery, securing a
422 recourse-effi- cient use of the entire trunk. The
423 timber was grown in Danish forests and sawed to
424 specified dimensions as either rough or planed
425 (PAR and PSE) lumber. In the building, the main
426 structure comprises 3 modules of eight 5x5”
427 timber posts in to- tal, stabilised by diagonal
428 bracing and leaving a rectangular 4x8 meter large
429 floor- plan. The 4x5” roof rafters, supported by
430 the timber frame and fitted with battens, are clad
431 with overlapping planed wooden boards, that
432 serve as a contemporary ref- erence to the his-
433 toric building's distinctive thatched roof. The
434 entrance, alcove and skylight, constituting re-
435 interpretations of three spatial situations identi-
436 fied in the historic Farmhouse, are made using 1”
437 planed wooden boards, supported by a slender
438 exterior structure.

439 Wood has been used as building material
440 around the world for thousands of years and the
441 technical properties of wood in historic buildings
442 are well described. Not only is the molecular and
443 cellular structure of wood fundamental to its use
444 as a material well suited for building construction
445 (Ramage et al., 2017), also the se- lection, pro-
446 cessing, and treatment may be of critical impor-
447 tance as a way of crafts- manship to improve the
448 properties of the material (Glarbo, 1959; Vad-
449 strup, 2021). As a building material, wood has
450 some very specific properties that are completely
451 different from, for example, concrete or bricks.
452 Thus, the opposition between the tectonic culture
453 of the filigree *light* to the stereotomic culture of
454 the *heavy* (Sem- per, 1989) is clearly articulated
455 in the Rothelau Farmhouse as well as in the Hau-
456 barg. In addition to the structural effect, the
457 timber structure – including diagonal bracing,
458 battens, and cladding – makes visible the “[...]”
459 tectonic statement: the no- ble gesture which
460 makes visible a play of forces, of load and sup-
461 port in column and entablature, calling forth our
462 own empathetic participation in the experience”
463 (Sekler, 1965, p.93).

464 Because unprotected structural timber is likely
465 to be exposed to elevated levels of moisture,
466 making it susceptible to fungal degradation,
467 wood protection by de- sign details such as
468 raising the timber structure above ground level
469 and providing overhanging roofs that limit the
470 exposure to wetting and direct sunlight, may en-
471 sure that timber components can last, potentially
472 for centuries (Ramage et al., 2017, p.351;
473 Vestergaard, 2000). In addition to the geometri-
474 cal configuration that limits exposure to wetting
475 and shows water off, the clear tectonic articula-
476 tion and layering – i.e., visually separating the
477 structural timber frame, the secondary mem-
478 bers, and the cladding – may allow the visitor an
479 intuitive understanding of how the building is
480 built as well as of the structural hierarchy and
481 varying temporality of its “shearing layers”
482 (Brand, 1995). As such, the structural configu-
483 ration of the Haubarg may lead to an *engaging*
484 *capacity* (Verbeek and Kockelkoren, 1998) that
485 may support easy maintenance, selective
486 replacement and intuitive repairs to the building
487 over time.

488 Condensation of water around materials with
489 high thermal conductivity – i.e., metal fastenings,
490 nails, and bolts – may be considered ‘poisonous’
491 to timber struc- tures and counteractive to
492 material longevity (Vadstrup, 2021). Accord-
493 ingly, the Haubarg is joined together without the
494 use of modern steel fastenings, just as all nails
495 used for cladding are made entirely out of wood.
496 Only the ground screws are made of galvanised
497 metal, reducing the carbon dioxide emission
498 regarding the foundation (according to the man-
499 ufacturer) by 89% compared to a contemporary
500 concrete solution. In a detail perspective, the
501 joints themselves may be understood as a mini-
502 mal unit in the process of signification, as “[...]”
503 the 'construction' and the 'construing' of archi-
504 tecture are both in the detail” (Fracari, 1983,
505 p.325). As such, the wooden joints have the
506 double effect of connecting the individual struc-
507 tural members using durable wood-on-wood
508 details as well as being the place where ar- chi-
509 tectural meaning is created. The physical prop-
510 erties of the material itself, the processing, and



511 treatment, including the significant joint, the
512 tectonic articulation and the static principle may
513 thus be understood as a mean of *communication*
514 through which material and technological quali-
515 ties and meanings are conveyed.

516 3.4 (Re)making the Haubarg

517 As described and analysed above, the (re)making
518 of the Haubarg has been extensively informed
519 by crafts tradition and local vernacular as mani-
520 fested in the his- toric Rothelau Farmhouse, both
521 in terms of cultural-historical qualities, experien-
522 tial effects, and technical properties. All three
523 aspects are characterised by *communicating*
524 *something*, both regarding the relation to the
525 landscape, the spatial character as well as the
526 physical material, inviting visitors to reflect on
527 how they dwell. All in all, the Haubarg may be
528 understood as the re-making of technical,
529 cultural-historical, and experiential characteris-
530 tics of the Rothelau Farmhouse con- veying
531 values, qualities, and meanings as dwelling.

532 4 Discussion and Conclusion

534 In light of the accelerating ecological crisis
535 including sea level rise, extreme weather events
536 and loss of biodiversity, all leading to higher
537 mortality (Kemp et al., 2022) the question is how
538 the cultural-historical qualities, experiential
539 effects, and technical properties of a historic
540 building, as described above, may become re-
541 actualized as part of the development of (more)
542 sustainable building culture(s).

543 The concept of sustainability was used for the
544 first time in 1713 by Hans Carl von Carlowitz
545 advocating the balancing of growth and harvest
546 through the principles of rationalisation, substi-
547 tution, and limitation as a reaction to the acute
548 scarcity of timber caused by the heavy exploita-
549 tion of forests by the mining industry. Even
550 though contested, the most widely used defini-
551 tion of the concept of sustainability today, is the
552 one offered by the Brundtland Commission
553 Report defining sustaina- ble development as

554 “development that meets the needs of the present
555 without compromising the ability of future gen-
556 erations to meet their own needs” (UN, 1987). In
557 continuation, the sustainable development goals,
558 SDGs “provides a shared blueprint for peace and
559 prosperity for people and the planet, now and
560 into the future” (UN SDGS, 2022). The (re)-
561 making of the Haubarg supports primarily SDG
562 11 (sustainable cities and communities), SDG 12
563 (responsible consumption and production) and
564 SDG 15 (life on land). More specifically, the
565 following tar- gets may be identified: 11.4,
566 strengthening efforts to protect and safeguard the
567 world’s cultural heritage; 11.c, building sustain-
568 able and resilient buildings utiliz- ing local
569 materials; 12.2, sustainably managing and effi-
570 ciently using of natural re- sources; 12.5, sub-
571 stantially reducing waste generation through
572 prevention, reduc- tion, recycling and reuse and
573 15.2 sustainably managing of all types of forests
574 and the halt of deforestation. As the project aims
575 at inspiring a future sustainable building culture,
576 SDG 3 (good health and well-being) may also be
577 considered rele- vant. Similarly, SDG 4 (quality
578 education) and SDG 13 (climate action) may be
579 considered pertinent, as the project is part of a
580 master program curriculum (UN SDGS, 2022). It
581 is, however, important to underline, that even if
582 individual goals have been identified, the SDGs
583 should be considered in a holistic perspective
584 since optimization at sector level will most likely
585 fail as the individual sectors may compete with
586 each other at the expense of the whole.

587 It has been argued that the SDGs prioritize
588 economic growth over ecological in- tegrity as
589 they fail to monitor absolute trends in resource
590 use (Eisenmenger et al., 2020). On a bounded
591 planet, material resources are limited (Daly,
592 2007) and the safe operating space of numerous
593 planetary boundaries are long exceeded (Rock-
594 ström et al., 2009; Steffen et al., 2015; Raworth,
595 2012; 2018). In the construction industry, the
596 concept of absolute environmental sustainability
597 requires actions to respect the planetary bound-
598 aries and stay within the safe operating space
599 (Hauschild et al., 2020). In this perspective, a
600 sustainable building culture must prioritise the
601 balancing between the just demand for welfare



among the living creatures and the bounded biophysical capital seen in a planetary perspective.

As a crucial part of the carbon cycle, wood accumulates and stores carbon dioxide while growing and acts as a carbon storage as long as it maintains its chemical form. When rotting or burned, carbon dioxide is released into the atmosphere again (Riebeek, 2011). As such, wood may be considered a renewable resource and potentially abundant, carbon neutral and recyclable. With recommended rotations for forestry harvests ranging from 35 to 70 years depending on species and location, wood – compared to mineral resources like rocks, ores and soils – has a very short geological timescale and may as such be considered the only widely used building material that is truly sustainable (Ramage et al. 2017, p.340). However – with an alternative response to climate mitigation and adaptation – the Climate Land Ambitions & Rights Alliance (Dooley et al., 2018) argues in favour of approaches that safeguard food security and food sovereignty, land rights, and biodiversity. According to this, major shifts in today's land use and land management is required – including end of deforestation, forest ecosystem restoration, natural forest expansion, agroforestry, improved management of forests for timber and reduction in wood production (Dooley et al., 2018).

Understanding the building as a physical manifestation of lived involvement in a temporal world as dwelling, the historic Rothelau Farmhouse as well as the experimental timber structure have been informed by a large number of parameters, including material, political, and economic values that may hold a number of potential sustainable potentials. The position of the building – protected from the sea by dikes and placed on top of a human made dwelling mound – may in itself become re-actualised as a necessary strategy in a near future with sea level rise and extreme weather events. The small size of the building may potentially inspire living on fewer square metres. In the building scale, traditional timber framing may be considered significantly more economical than the

contemporary massive CLT construction, regarding the amount of wood used. With the recommendation that wood be employed in products with a design lifespan that (at least) matches timber rotation periods (Ramage et al., 2017, p.351), wood utilization should move to longer-lived products (Dooley et al., 2018) and building longevity. In this perspective, the significant joint, the tectonic articulation and the static principle as means of empathic participation and conveyor of meaning has an engaging capacity that may potentially invite maintenance, reuse, refurbishment, and recycling, according to the principles of a circular economy (Ellen MacArthur Foundation, 2022).

One study investigating the value of building heritage concludes that in Denmark, listed buildings have a higher economic value than comparable not-listed buildings (Incentive, 2015) suggesting that architectural and cultural-historical qualities may have a positive influence on building lifespan. According to the European Environment Agency EEA, the ecological crisis is closely linked to economic growth, including increase in production, consumption, and resource use. It is pointed out, that 100% circularity is impossible, just as full decoupling of economic growth from environmental pressures and resource consumption is not possible. As such, a sustainable future requires change of qualitative aspects, such as consumption and social practices, not only a change of technology. As pointed out by EAA, “[w]hile the planet is finite in its biophysical sense, on a biophysically finite planet, infinite growth in human existential values, such as beauty, love, and kindness, as well as in ethics, may be possible” (EAA, 2021). In a cultural-historic perspective, vernacular building culture manifests an embodiment of both material and landscape conditions, cultivated by using the ability of a given society. This involvement in the temporal world may be described as a meaningful material practice where resources extracted from nature are deployed in a building system and cultivated to make *dwelling*.

From a phenomenological perspective, the fundamental existential structure indicating

650
651
652
653
654
655
656
657
658
659
660
661
662
663
664
665
666
667
668
669
670
671
672
673
674
675
676
677
678
679
680
681
682
683
684
685
686
687
688
689
690
691
692
693
694
695
696
697



how one feels is characterised by *attunement* [Befindlichkeit]. According to Heidegger, “[i]n attunement lies existentially a disclosive submission to world out of which things that matter to us can be encountered” (Heidegger, 1996, pp.129-130). As such, attunement makes it possible to direct oneself towards something, to be touched and have a sense for something. The making as disclosure of landscape characteristics, material qualities and static principle experienced through embodied communication through which architectural meaning as dwelling is conveyed may thus potentially invite “[...] staying with things for a longer while” (Andersen, 2022, p.335). In this perspective, it may be argued that longevity seen from both a technical, cultural-historical and experiential perspective is dependent on “[...] maintaining and reinforcing the meanings in an object” (Muñoz Viñas, 2005) that may potentially contribute to a resource-saving strategy and sustainable development by ensuring maximum meaning for present and future generations.

In continuation of the above, it is recommended, that sustainable design strategies include material parameters that may enhance the engaging capacity such as the selection, processing and treatment, wood-on-wood joints, wood protection by design, separation of temporal layers, clear tectonic articulation and structural configuration; environmental parameters that may enhance the sense of interrelation, such as administration, geography, topography, ground, vegetation, weather and climate conditions; and spatial parameters that may enhance emotional attachment such as bodily experienced spatial sequence enacted between the closed and open, dark and light, matte and sharp. All parameters are conveying meaning through communication and may as such highlight the lived involvement and the capacity for maintenance and care that may support building longevity.

It may be concluded that technical properties, cultural-historical qualities, and experiential effects as found in crafts tradition and local vernacular, as in the case of *The Rothelau Farmhouse*, may inform a contemporary design

practice, exemplified in the specific case of (re)making the Haubarg. Architecture should not be understood as a building in and of itself, but rather as situated in a larger material, environmental, and social (eco)system. As reduction in wood production is required in order to safeguard food security and sovereignty, land rights, and biodiversity, a holistic approach including building longevity should be observed. Made with a potential abundant, carbon neutral and recyclable bio-based material (if used correctly) and as conveyer of technical, cultural-historical, and experiential values, qualities and meaning, the (re)making of the Haubarg may supplement and qualify contemporary sustainable design strategies. As *embodied communication* through which meanings as *dwelling* are conveyed, the (re)making of the Haubarg may thus inspire future (more) sustainable building culture(s) in careful consideration of the biophysically bounded Earth.

Acknowledgements This paper is a part of the research project “Where We Live, Now, Then and in the Future” which is conducted in collaboration with the Danish Open Air Museum and Roskilde University (RUC) with financial support from the Velux Foundation. Ground screws were generously sponsored by Fremtidens Fundament ApS and wooden nails by BECK Fastening.

References

- Andersen NB. Beauty Reclaimed – Towards an Ontology of Sustainable Architecture and Design. In: Warda J, editor. *Beyond Bauhaus. New Approaches to Architecture and Design Theory*. Heidelberg: Arthistoricum; 2020. p. 203–214
- Andersen NB (2018) Phenomenological Method - Towards an approach to architectural investigation, description and design. In: Lorentsen E, Torp KA (eds) *Formation - Architectural Education in a Nordic Perspective*. Architectural Publisher B, Copenhagen, pp 74–95
- Brand S (1995) *How Buildings Learn: What Happens After They’re Built*. Penguin Books, London
- Brejtnrod KN, Kalbar P, Petersen S, Birkved M (2017) The absolute environmental performance of buildings. *Build Environ* 119:87–98. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.build-env.2017.04.003>
- Daly H (2007) *Ecological Economics and Sustainable Development, Selected Essays of Herman Daly*. Edward Elgar Publishing Limited, Cheltenham



- 796 Dooley K et al. Missing Pathways to 1.5°C: The role of
797 the land sector in ambitious climate action. *Climate*
798 *Land Ambition and Rights Alliance*; 2018
- 799 Eisenmenger et al (2020) The Sustainable Development
800 Goals prioritize economic growth over sustainable
801 resource use. *Sustain Sci* 15:1101–1110. [https://doi.](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11625-020-00813-x)
802 [org/10.1007/s11625-020-00813-x](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11625-020-00813-x)
- 803 Ellen MacArthur Foundation: Let's build a circular
804 economy. <https://ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/>
805 (2022). Accessed 3 October 2022
- 806 European Commission: Energy performance of buildings.
807 [https://ec.europa.eu/en-](https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/topics/energy-efficiency/energy-performance-of-buildings)
808 [ergy/en/topics/energy-](https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/topics/energy-efficiency/energy-performance-of-buildings)
809 [efficiency/energy-performance-of-buildings](https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/topics/energy-efficiency/energy-performance-of-buildings) (2021).
810 Accessed 3 October 2022
- 811 Frascari M. The Tell-The-Tale Detail. In: Deely, JN,
812 Lenhart, MD, editors. *Semiotics 1981*. Boston, MA:
813 Springer; 1983. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4615-](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4615-9328-7_32)
814 [9328-7_32](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4615-9328-7_32) Glarbo O. Træ. København: Teknisk
815 Forlag; 1959
- 816 Groat LN, Wang D (2013) *Architectural Research*
817 *Methods*. John Wiley & Sons, Hoboken
- 818 Hauschild MZ, Kara S, Røpke I. Absolute sustainability:
819 Challenges to life cycle engineering. *CIRP annals*, 69
820 (2), 533–553 (2020). [https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cirp.](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cirp.2020.05.004)
821 [2020.05.004](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cirp.2020.05.004) Heidegger, M. *Being and Time*. Albany:
822 State University of New York Press; 1996
- 823 ICOMOS Climate Change and Cultural Heritage Working
824 Group (2019) *The Future of Our Pasts: Engaging*
825 *Cultural Heritage in Climate Action*. ICOMOS, Paris,
826 p 2019
- 827 Incentive (2015) *Værdien af Bygningsarven*. [https://](https://realдания.dk/publikationer/faglige-publikationer/v%C3%A6rdien-af-bygningsarv)
828 [realдания.dk/publikationer/faglige-pub-](https://realдания.dk/publikationer/faglige-publikationer/v%C3%A6rdien-af-bygningsarv)
829 [likationer/v%](https://realдания.dk/publikationer/faglige-publikationer/v%C3%A6rdien-af-bygningsarv)
830 [C3%A6rdien-af-bygningsarv](https://realдания.dk/publikationer/faglige-publikationer/v%C3%A6rdien-af-bygningsarv). Accessed 3 October
831 2022
- 832 Ingold T (1993) The Temporality of the Landscape.
833 *World Archaeol* 25(2):152–174
- 834 Ingold T (2000) *The Perception of the Environment*.
835 Routledge, London
- 836 IPCC (2022) *Climate Change 2022. Mitigation of Climate*
837 *Change*. [https://www.ipcc.ch/re-](https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg3/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_WGIII_Full_Report.pdf)
838 [port/ar6/wg3/](https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg3/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_WGIII_Full_Report.pdf)
839 [downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_WGIII_Full_Report.](https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg3/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_WGIII_Full_Report.pdf)
840 [pdf](https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg3/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_WGIII_Full_Report.pdf). Accessed 3 Octo-
841 ber 2022
- 842 Julebæk VB (2022) *Making Matters – the scope of*
843 *material effects in the transformation of architectural*
844 *environments*. In: *Stof og Virkning* (pre-print). Dis-
845 *sertation*, Royal Danish Academy – Architecture,
846 p 337–471.
- 847 Kemp L et al. Climate Endgame: Exploring catastrophic
848 climate change scenarios. *PNAS* Vol. 119 | No. 34.
849 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2108146119>
- 850 Leatherbarrow D (2009) *Architecture Oriented Otherwise*.
851 Princeton Architectural Press, New York
- 852 Muñoz Viñas S. *Contemporary Theory of Conservation*.
853 Oxford: Elsevier; 2005 Pedersen MV. Ejdersted.
854 København: Frilandsmuseet; 2004
- 855 Ramage et al. The wood from the trees: The use of timber
856 in construction. *Renewable and Sustainable Energy*
857 *Reviews* Volume 68, Part 1, February 2017; 333–359.
858 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rser.2016.09.107>
- 859 Raworth K. *A Safe and Just Space for Humanity*. 2012.
860 [https://www.oxfam.org/en/re-](https://www.oxfam.org/en/research/safe-and-just-space-humanity)
861 [search/safe-and-just-](https://www.oxfam.org/en/research/safe-and-just-space-humanity)
862 [space-humanity](https://www.oxfam.org/en/research/safe-and-just-space-humanity). Accessed 3 October 2022
- 863 Raworth K (2018) *Doughnut Economics: Seven Ways to*
864 *Think Like a 21st-Century Economist*. Cornerstone,
865 New Orleans
- 866 Riebeek H. *The Carbon Cycle*. 2011. [https://](https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/features/CarbonCycle)
867 [earthobservatory.nasa.gov/features/Car-](https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/features/CarbonCycle)
868 [bonCycle](https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/features/CarbonCycle).
869 Accessed 3 October 2022
- 870 Rockström J, Steffen W, Noone K et al (2009) A safe
871 operating space for humanity. *Nature* 461:472–475.
872 <https://doi.org/10.1038/461472a>
- 873 Schmitz H. *Atmospheric Spaces. Ambiances*. 2016.
874 [https://journals.openedition.org/ambi-](https://journals.openedition.org/ambiances/711)
875 [ances/711](https://journals.openedition.org/ambiances/711)
- 876 Schmitz H (2014) *Kort indføring i den nye fænomeno-*
877 *logi*. Aalborg Universitetsforlag, Aalborg
- 878 Schmitz H. *New Phenomenology. A brief introduction*.
879 Milan: Mimesis International; 2019 Schön D. *Educating*
880 *the Reflective Practitioner*. San Francisco: Jossey-
881 Bass Publishers; 1986 Schön D. *The Reflective*
882 *Practitioner – How Professionals Think in Action*.
883 Århus: Klim; 2001
- 884 Semper G (1989) *The Four Elements of Architecture*.
885 Cambridge University Press, Cambridge
- 886 Sekler EF (1965) *Structure, Construction, Tectonics*. In:
887 Kepes G (ed) *Structure in Art and Sci- ence*.
888 G. Braziller, New York, pp 89–95
- 889 Steffen W, Richardson K, Rockström J, et al. Planetary
890 boundaries: Guiding human devel- opment on a
891 changing planet. Vol 347, Issue 6223. 2015. [https://](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1259855)
892 [doi.org/10.1126/sci-](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1259855)
893 [ence.1259855](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1259855)
- 894 UN (1987) *Our Common Future*. United Nations. [http://](http://www.un-documents.net/our-common-future.pdf)
895 [www.un-documents.net/our-com-](http://www.un-documents.net/our-common-future.pdf)
896 [mon-future.pdf](http://www.un-documents.net/our-common-future.pdf).
897 Accessed 3 October 2022
- 898 UN FCCC (2015) *The Paris Agreement*. United Nations.
899 [https://unfccc.int/sites/de-](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english_paris_agreement.pdf)
900 [fault/files/english_paris_agreement.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english_paris_agreement.pdf). Accessed 3
901 October 2022
- 902 UN SDGS (2022) *Sustainable Development Goals*.
903 United Nations. <https://sdgs.un.org>. Ac-
904 cessed 18
905 Sept 2022.
- 906 Vadstrup S (2021). *Nye bæredygtige træhuse – helt af*
907 *TRÆ, med vedvarende holdbarhed 2019 – 2021*.
908 Søren Vadstrup. [https://www.bevardithus.dk/wp-](https://www.bevardithus.dk/wp-content/uploads/Nye-traehuse-helt-af-trae-dec-2021-Kopi.pdf)
909 [content/uploads/Nye-traehuse-helt-af-trae-dec-2021-](https://www.bevardithus.dk/wp-content/uploads/Nye-traehuse-helt-af-trae-dec-2021-Kopi.pdf)
910 [Kopi.pdf](https://www.bevardithus.dk/wp-content/uploads/Nye-traehuse-helt-af-trae-dec-2021-Kopi.pdf). Accessed 3 October 2022
- 911 Verbeek PP, Kockelkoren P (1998) *The Things That*
912 *Matter*. *Des Issues* 14(3):28–42. [https://doi.org/10.](https://doi.org/10.2307/1511892)
913 [2307/1511892](https://doi.org/10.2307/1511892)
- 914 Vestergaard M. *Dokumentation af konstruktiv træbeskyt-*
915 *telse*. Miljøprojekt Nr. 515. Teknologisk Institut. 2000