

ABSTRACT

The machine does not work. Post-functional, post-military architecture lost the status of a machine; it stopped working. So should we rush to think about giving such architecture new functions? Or maybe it is worth turning to the renewal of imagination? Namely, re-imagining architecture, without the burden of perception of the functional task entrusted to it? Such renewal is so much needed in the light of current crises.

The aim of the doctoral dissertation is to show hidden affordances in post-functional architecture. It is an invitation to a world of renewed imagination. I juxtapose the most radical representation of functional architecture, which served the war and now no longer works as a machine, with James J. Gibson's theory of affordance. In my research, I also turn to Roman Ingarden's phenomenological method, taking architecture and its function in brackets, which implies suspending the historical and social context and focusing on the sensual perception of space here and now. I use a research method that I call the Laboratory of Post-Functional Architecture. The tools used in it help to demonstrate hidden design affordances. Revealing these affordances allowed me to propose an alternative approach to the design process parallel to the functional process. The research covered shelters, a former crushed stone factory in Dalimierz and a former dynamite factory in Krzystkowice (Nowogród Bobrzański).

I explore the antifragility of architecture - how architecture gains from shocks, develops under the influence of variability, randomness and disorder. I also examine what its new participant gains thanks to the antifragility.

Within the Laboratory, I renegotiate the determinants of the solidity of this architecture. I redefine basic elements such as ceiling, ceiling, floor, window, door, by forgetting their function and operation. I am formulating a new architecture manual. I notice new partings and meetings of forms, planes and layers, and set new directions for them. Revealing the hidden possibilities of post-functional architecture, I conclude by redefining the concept of post-fabrication. I am introducing a new network that stabilises architecture structured by affordances.

Thanks to a century of focusing on the utility of architecture, we have unlearned to imagine architecture as functionless. I advocate awakening fascination with architecture in the category

of art as well as sensitisation to the perception of spatial affordances, and I encourage the consequent adoption of an alternative design process.

In the dissertation, I try to answer the following questions:

- What does architecture's participant/observer gain as a result of losing the function of architecture?
- Does the obligation to remember deprive us of the possibility of renewing our imagination?
- How do affordances extend the post-functional parameters of architecture?
- Isn't it time for form to stop following function?
- Is it possible to design not by starting with the question of what function architecture is supposed to perform?

Keywords: affordances, post-functional architecture, post-military architecture, post-function, function, post-functional architecture, renewal of imagination, function, redefinition, design, oblivion, antifragility