

## INHABITATION AND USE AS SPATIAL AESTHETIC PRACTISE

### PROJEKTBEKRIVELSE

When architects design dwellings, in many cases, the future inhabitants are absent from the processes of planning and building, for instance owing to the planning situation, where the architects' clients consist of companies or public bodies, that will appoint inhabitants at a later time. In situations, where inhabitants and architects know each other, the design is likely to reflect mutual discussions in an initial scenario of inhabitation. This is put to test, as changes to its initial conditions occur over time.

Another general, but very dominant reason for this asymmetry in the relationships with dwellings is the difference in life expectancies. Unless a building is temporary, it is most likely to survive the actors of its initial design and construction processes and to encompass many generations and situations of occupancy. At the same time, these partly irreversible 'making' processes embed material manifestations of aspects that are valid at the time and within the circumstances of planning, aspects defined by the clients and first inhabitants and considerations of the architect as an artistic persona, into the built material. However, as all these aspects are temporary in their outset, the validity of decisions from this phase and their material manifestations erode over time.

The research project is interested in how we can read and understand the relationships between dwellings as agents and their inhabitants on the one hand and

with their architects on the other, reflecting on stages of the long periods of time that characterise the built material's life span. In other words, how can inhabitation work as a conduit of building history, incorporating these dual, asymmetrical and partly intertwined relationships – the imagination of inhabiting a dwelling as part of a 'work' and inhabiting a dwelling making for a 'home'? How can we understand dwellings both as material and as ongoing processes, incorporating all the small scale objects, micro-negotiations and intimate transaction that are part of these?



### DATA

**Forfatter** | Robert Gassner

**Kandidat** | Cand.arch.

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**Vejleder** | Peter Thule Kristensen, KA

### KONTAKT

**Navn** | Robert Gassner

**Institut** | 1

**Telefon** | 3268 6326

**E-mail** | robert.gassner@karch.dk