



Housing – A Critical Perspective.

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Abstract / Initial Proposal Form:

1. Paper / Proposal Title: Learning from Increments: Towards a Sustainable Design Strategy for Housing

2. Format: Written paper

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4. University or Company Affiliation: Liverpool John Moores University

5. Abstract (300 words):

Incremental housing refers to flexible housing prototypes or 'core' housing, designed to grow over time. As a response to changing family structures and economies, incremental housing is a user led, adaptable mechanism that allows occupiers the freedom to enlarge the size and ameliorate the quality of housing in response to the demographic and economic changes of the households' composition. The originality of this housing typology lies in the process rather than the final outcome.

Incremental housing has been adopted in developing areas as a mechanism to deal with poverty and empowerment and to increase social capital (Breimer and Napier, 2013; Pasel, 2014; Wakely, 2014). However, far from being a regional phenomenon, incremental construction transcends political boundaries and involves different cultures and societies, as well as economic and political systems (Greene and Rojas, 2008; Wakely and Riley, 2011; Hamid and Mohamed Elhassan, 2014).

In view of the growing interest in incremental housing as a proactive strategy to meet housing demand (Goethert, 2010; Global University Consortium, 2010; Aravena and Iacobelli, 2013; Cruz, 2013), this paper begins with a critical synthesis of previous incremental housing examples, from the 1980s to the present day, drawn from a variety of urban contexts. Illustrating the process(es) that led to their effective implementation, this paper questions how incremental practices can be used as a method to provide urban housing, encourage typological innovation, rethink the relationship between building and land provision and support appropriate city growth.

In the current context of evolving policy frameworks regarding the provision of affordable housing in the UK (Heywood, 2016; Homes and Communities Agency, 2014) by drawing upon MArch studio projects from Liverpool John Moores University, this paper will open up debate concerning the potential of incremental housing as a sustainable design strategy, in dealing with the growing 'housing crisis.'

7. Author(s) Biography (200 words each):

Joanne Hudson
Senior Lecturer, Liverpool John Moores University.

Joanne Hudson is a Senior Lecturer at Liverpool John Moores University. She has worked as an Architect in a number of North West RIBA registered practices and holds a BA(Hons) and BArch in Architecture from The Manchester School of Architecture, an MA in Art as Environment and a PhD in Human and Cultural Geography from The Manchester Metropolitan University. Joanne's academic interests are located at the intersection of Architecture, Planning and Geography.

Her research focuses principally on the relationship between spatial planning practices and the production, (re)production and use of wastelands and derelict spaces - what she terms 'informal spaces,' and affordable housing strategies. Her current work questions how we can utilise the potential of informal spaces at various levels and spatial scales through the development of coordinated systems of land use planning, creative design and community capital. Furthermore, her housing research seeks to investigate the relationships between community groups and designers and the role that new design strategies have in providing viable affordable housing for the future. This research is intended to impel a critique of current planning and design practices, contributing to critical (re)understandings and (re)readings of the city whilst reassessing the way we value our urban environment.

Aliki-Myrto Perysinaki
Senior Lecturer, Liverpool John Moores University.

Aliki-Myrto Perysinaki is a Senior Lecturer at Liverpool John Moores University and a Research Officer at the Royal Institute of British Architects. She holds a MA in Architecture Engineering and a Post-Masters in Conception, Space, Civilisation from the National Technical University of Athens, Greece, an MA in Historical Gardens, Cultural Heritage and Landscape from ENSA Versailles and Pantheon-Sorbonne University, France, and a PhD in Architecture and Urbanism from Paris West University Nanterre La Défense, France and Blekinge Institute of Technology, Sweden. Before joining LJMU, she worked at the ENSA Paris-La Villette, France and the University of Melbourne, Australia as a Post-Doctoral fellow.

Aliki's research deals with the influence of sustainable development on the architectural design process. Focusing on exemplar practices, building regulations and policies, she develops a critical understanding of architecture - as process and profession - through what she defines as 'Complexity'. Her current work examines the transformation of urbanscapes due to climatic change, the impact of devolution in spatial planning (Northern Powerhouse) and the potential of alternative housing typologies to provide affordable design. By dealing with different scales, her research aspires to observe the evolving character of the architectural profession in leading intra-disciplinary conception and negotiation through a project's process. Aliki has recently won the Prize for Research and PhD in Architecture (Prix de la Recherche et de la Thèse de Doctorat en architecture), awarded by the Academy of Architecture (Académie d'Architecture) in France.