

AGENDA (DRAFT VERSION)

Scandinavia: Modern Regionalism v. Contemporary Contextualism

In the last century, Nordic architectural design has served as a powerful symbol that provides an instantaneous impression of a region. Regardless of project size or prestige, the work embodies qualities that utilize local construction methods, sustainable awareness, and available materials; that aspire to a distinct quietness, yet stay relevant in our architectural discourse. It has a *Regionalist* attitude that considers the individual and their surroundings.

The idea of *Contemporary Contextualism* has developed within the last few decades, stemmed from an accelerated pace of information exchange and an increasing economic globalization. In this context, design methodologies and practices have spread and developed within numerous regions throughout the world, regardless of vernacular consideration. More recently, with the recent emphasis on sustainability, failure of social housing developments and the rise of the super-structure, Nordic contemporaries have managed to retain and emphasize their modern roots, while embracing and producing new and relevant work.

This research proposes an investigation into a region-specific design culture, like Scandinavia, which has been influenced by modern design, but demonstrates that traditional culture, as expressed in architecture, is not something permanent. It has also embraced the idea of contemporary contextualism that is constantly being reinterpreted in the present. It will explore interventions to further existing urban conditions, as well as develop new proposals within studied cities and its' conceptual applications within Boston.

Travel Itinerary (DRAFT)

Historical Influence:

Northern Italy (*Church of S. Giovanni, Santa Maria Assunta Church*)

Iceland (*Glaumbaer Turf House, Hallgrimskirkja*)

Finland (*Turku Castles*)

Sweden (*Parstuga Houses*)

Norway (*Borgund and Luster Stave Churches*)

Modern Regionalism:

Sweden : Stockholm, Malmo, Gothenburg, Bjorkhagen (*Works by Gunnar Aspluno, Sigurd Lewerentz, Peter Celsing*)

Norway : Oslo, Orsta, Bergen (*Works by Sverre Fehn*)

Finland : Helsinki, Turku, Jyvaskyla, Tampere (*Works by Alvar Aalto*)

Denmark: Copenhagen (*Works by Jorn Utton, Arne Jacobson*)

France: Ronchamp, Poissy (*Works by Le Corbusier*)

Contemporary Identity:

Bilbao, Spain (*Guggenheim Museum*)

Malmo, Sweden (*HSB Turning Torso*)

Contemporary Contextualism:

Madrid, Spain (*CaixaForum*)

Mechernich, Germany (*Bruder Klaus Chapel*)

Vals, Switzerland (*Thermal Spa*)

Copenhagen, Denmark (*8HOUSE, VM houses*)

Oslo, Norway (*Oslo Opera House*)

West Coast Norway (*National Tourist Route Project*)

Hamaroy, Norway (*Knut Hamsun Center*)